

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

SUBJECT: DISAPPEARANCE OF

JIMMY HOFFA

PAGES 1661 THRU 2036



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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281A

12819

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Bureau File Number 9-60032

*See
next
volume*

Field Office Criminal Investigative
and Administrative Files

Volume Number 222
Serials 839 - 881

 Armed and Dangerous FOIPA DO NOT DESTROY NCIC ELSUR OCIS Escape Risk Suicidal Financial Privacy Act Other _____

See also Nos.

Sub A UZ, 1B, NCSub B - ENTA-AC.8*b7c*

HOFFA, Page 1661

10-1-92

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

b7C

C-8

Date 7/27/92

FM FBI DETROIT (183A-DE-1155) (P) (C-8)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/IMMEDIATE/

FBI SACRAMENTO/IMMEDIATE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //3220//

PASS: FOR FBIHQ SSA [REDACTED] OCI/DB; SECTION 2; FOR

FBI SACRAMENTO SA [REDACTED] READING R.A.

SUBJECT: HOFFEX; OO: DETROIT.

RE TELCAL BETWEEN SA [REDACTED] AND SA [REDACTED]

DETROIT, ON JULY 27, 1992.

BE ADVISED, REGARDING THE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN

[REDACTED], CALIFORNIA, HOME PHONE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], AND SA [REDACTED] WHERE [REDACTED] IDENTIFIED JOHN DOE ON FRIDAY'S (JULY 24, 1992) "A CURRENT AFFAIR" PROGRAM. JOHN DOE ADMITTED TO BEING INVOLVED IN THE KILLING OF JIMMY HOFFA. MS.

Tmc/cmg

(1)

Approved: Hn M Original filename: CMG001W.210Time Received: 7/27/92 Telprep filename: CMG001SO.210MRI/JULIAN DATE: 326/210 ISN: 00178PFOX DATE & TIME OF ACCEPTANCE: 1335

HOFFA, Page 1662

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^PAGE 2 DE, 183A-DE-1155, UNCLAS E F T O

[REDACTED] STATED TO SA [REDACTED] THAT SHE IDENTIFIED JOHN DOE AS A
[REDACTED]. SHE ADDED SHE HAS BEEN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SHE DID
NOT PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING [REDACTED]

b7c FBI DETROIT IS OVERNIGHT EXPRESSING A VIDEO OF THE

b7d ABOVE-MENTIONED PROGRAM TO THE READING R.A. ALL
COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN [REDACTED] AND THE FBI WILL BE
HANDLED BY SA [REDACTED] UNTIL FURTHER ADVISED.

SACRAMENTO AT [REDACTED] CALIFORNIA: WILL EXPEDITIOUSLY
INTERVIEW [REDACTED] AND VIEW THE VIDEO WITH HER FOR
FURTHER IDENTIFICATION. IF IDENTIFICATION REMAINS POSITIVE,
SA [REDACTED] WILL TAKE THE APPROPRIATE ACTION IN POSITIVELY
IDENTIFYING JOHN DOE.

BT

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (183A-1155) (C-8) (P)

Date 7/28/92

From : SA [REDACTED]

b7c Subject: HOFFEX
(OO: DETROIT)

Re FOI/PA status of captioned case.

On 7/28/92, SSA [REDACTED] Legal Counsel, FBIHQ,
advised the writer the following:

In 8th Circuit (Missouri) - DOJ is the appellant -
status: pending appeal decision.

In 6th Circuit (Michigan) - DOJ is the appellee -
status: pending appeal decision.

TMC:brs
(1). VWD

183A-1155-872

gill

J

HOFFA, Page 1664

6000 MMF 2022B

RR RUCNPF FBI/DET

DE FBI/DET 20003 2140419

ZNF BUWU

F 210341Z AUG 92

FM FBI SACRAMENTO (183A-DE-1155C-8) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/ROUTINE/

FBI DETROIT/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //SOL//

SUBJECT: HOFFA, JOSEPH - DETROIT.

RE DETROIT TELETYPE DATED 7/26/92.

FOR INFORMATION DIRECTOR AND DETROIT, CONTACT WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AT [REDACTED] CALIFORNIA. DETERMINED THAT THE " [REDACTED] " THAT [REDACTED] STATED WAS THE "JOHN DOE" IN [REDACTED]

IN FACT [REDACTED] WHO RESIDES AT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CALIFORNIA. DOB: [REDACTED]

ON 7/31/92, DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY CHRISTINE KIRK
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, [REDACTED] WAS

b7c

183A-1155-841

b7c

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED

AUG 01 1992

FBI - DETROIT

HOFFA, Page 1665

PAGE TWO DE FBISOC 6-26 UNCLAS

CONTACTED AND ADVISED, AND SHE ADVISED THAT SHE HAS BEEN A

[REDACTED] OF [REDACTED] FOR MANY YEARS. [REDACTED] VIEWED THE TAPE
FROM THE TELEVISION SHOW "A CURRENT AFFAIR" AND STATED

POSITIVELY THAT THE JOHN DOE DEPICTED IN THAT SHOW WAS NOT

b7C

[REDACTED]
IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, SACRAMENTO IS CONSIDERING THIS
MATTER FUG. A "CURRENT AFFAIR" TAPE WILL BE MAILED TO DETROIT
CASE AGENT.

BT

40006

NNNN

The following investigation was conducted in Pontiac, Michigan, by SA [REDACTED] on August 13, 1992:

[REDACTED] b7c Chief Medical Examiner, Oakland County, Michigan, 1200 North Telegraph Road, telephone number [REDACTED] was personally contacted regarding the discovery of skeletal remains in Wixom, Michigan, on August 7, 1992.

[REDACTED] was asked to compare the remains to the dental records of JAMES R. HOFFA (provided by SA [REDACTED]). [REDACTED] did, and advised that in his opinion the skeletal teeth and bone structure did not match those of HOFFA. [REDACTED] added that a more thorough examination of the remains would be conducted to determine age and other identifying data, and that should his conclusions change, he would immediately notify the FBI.

183B-1155-842

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 18 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

HOFFA, Page 1667

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)
Detroit Free
Pr. 5

Pg 7B

Date: 8-12-92

Edition: Metro Final

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

Wixom police try to find who skeleton once was

WIXOM — Police are checking historical records to try to determine whose bones were found by construction workers digging on Pontiac Trail.

The Oakland County Medical Examiner said Tuesday the skeleton found Monday was that of a 40-to-60-year-old white man.

No sign of foul play was apparent, and "we haven't heard of any unsolved homicides from back in the early years," said Wixom Police Sgt. Richard Howe. "Somebody may have just died and been buried there."

183-8355-045
fbi b-

HOFFA, Page 1668

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (80-1334)

Date 7/24/92

From : SA [REDACTED]
MEDIA COORDINATOR

Subject: MEDIA APPEARANCES BY
DETROIT PERSONNEL

b7C For information, on 7/22/92, writer was contacted by LESLIE FARGA, of A CURRENT AFFAIR (ACA), of New York City, telephone number (212) [REDACTED]. Inquiry was regarding individual (see attached) who claimed to have participated in the abduction of JIMMY HOFFA. Writer responded to media inquiries to the extent that ACA should make individual's identity known to the FBI for purposes of helping resolve pending investigation.

On 7/24/92, writer provided following response to media inquiries regarding aforementioned: "This is a new allegation. As with leads previously provided to the FBI, we will follow-up on this one by attempting to interview the person in question. The FBI continues to actively investigate the disappearance of JIMMY HOFFA."

This statement was proved to:

WWJ RADIO
WXYT RADIO
TV-4
RUTER NEWS
BRITISH NEWS (NY)

b7C

SSA [REDACTED] provided statement to the DETROIT NEWS on 7/23/892.

(1) - 183A-1155

LHWG/bas

(2) *[Signature]*

b7e

[REDACTED]

HOFFA, Page 1669

NEW YORK POST, FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1992

'I SANK JIMMY HOFFA ALIVE IN LAKE MICH.'

By TIMOTHY McDARRAH

The body of missing ex-Teamsters chief Jimmy Hoffa sleeps with the fishes at the bottom of Lake Michigan, according to a man who says he participated in Hoffa's murder.

The 70-year-old ex-con details his version of Hoffa's killing in an interview that airs on "A Current Affair" tonight at 7:30 on Channel 5.

The man, who speaks on camera but is not identified, says he was one of four men who tossed a still-living Hoffa overboard near Chicago.

"This guy could be a hoaxer and he could be a con man," reporter Steve Dunleavy of "A Current Affair" told The Post yesterday.

"But he passed a lie-detector test and a lot of his story checks out."

The ex-con claims Hoffa was grabbed at a Detroit restaurant in 1975 and taken to a junk yard, where he was injected with sedatives and tossed into a van, then driven to Chicago.

At a suburban Chicago dock on Lake Michigan, Hoffa was put onto a yacht and his mouth was taped shut, according to the self-described hitman.

The quintet — Hoffa and his four captors — then headed out to sea.

"When we anchored, Sal

[an accomplice] said, 'Let's get on with it.' And then he came back and told us to strip the man down, bare-skin naked," the ex-con says in the interview.

The four strapped weights to Hoffa's legs and tossed him over the side, he says, adding:

"When the bubbles stopped coming up, we upped the anchor, started the motor and went back."

The ex-con says that on the way to Chicago, Hoffa tried to bribe the four with \$500,000 to spare his life, but they refused the offer. Each hitman allegedly got \$25,000 for the job.

Hoffa was last seen alive at a Detroit restaurant on July 30, 1975. His body has never been found.



MYSTERY MEN: An ex-con (above) who passed a lie-detector test says on "A Current Affair" tonight that he and three fellow hitmen dumped Jimmy Hoffa (left) — alive, naked and weighted down — into Lake Michigan and left "when the bubbles stopped coming up."

Sliwa and cop clash over his I.D. of suspect

Curtis Sliwa said yesterday he'd "stake his life" that he has identified the man who shot him last month — but police say the *Guardian Angel*'s story doesn't ring true.

"He did not identify anybody," insisted Suzanne Trazoff, Police Department spokeswoman.

Sliwa countered: "I suggest they re-question me and bring him in for a lineup and I'll pick him out 100 times out of 100 times."

He claimed "the police are chicken" and afraid to pick up the suspect he identified because of the suspect's alleged ties to the Gambino crime family.

He also cited a decade of bad blood between police and the red-bereted citizen-patrol group he founded.

Sliwa, 38, said the man he identified was Steve Kaplan, a confidant of John Gotti Jr., son of the jailed crime boss whom the outspoken Sliwa has often criticized. Sliwa believes Gotti Jr. ordered the hit.

Sliwa said he first identified Kaplan on Tuesday, when Channel 4 reporter



CURTIS SLIWA

"I staked my life on John Miller showed his mug shots. It was bingo, the fireworks off," he said, adding Sliwa would "stake his life" on his I.D.

He said police showed him six photos of which was a different mugshot of Kaplan than the one Miller had shown him.

"Out of the six . . . I put Kaplan's photo again," said Sliwa.

Cops would not confirm Sliwa's account.

Sliwa was ambushed early June 19.

Timothy McDarragh

FROM: DCCU LRU
TO: DCCU LRU
DATE: 7-24-1992 10:04

HOFFA, Page 1670

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FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO FBI DETROIT (183A-1155)/ROUTINE/

FBI NEW YORK/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //0661//

b7c

PASS: DETROIT FOR GSA [REDACTED] C-8; NEW YORK FOR ABAC

DONALD V NORTH, BROOKLYN-QUEENS RESIDENT AGENCY.

SUBJECT: HOFFA, OH, DETROIT,

REFERENCE: TELCAL TO DETROIT ON AUGUST 21, 1992,

REFERRED TELCAL DISCUSSED THE APPEARANCE OF POLICEMAN
EXAMINER NAT LAVONI, A FORMER NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
DETECTIVE, ON THE TELEVISION SHOW "A CURRENT AFFAIR" ON NBC DAY
JULY 23, 1992. THIS TELEVISION SHOW CONCERNED THE DISAPPEARANCE
OF FORMER TEAMSTER PRESIDENT JIMMY HOFFA AND STATEMENTS MADE BY

3/25/92
WATK

b7c

183A-1155-845

[Redacted]

[Signature]

Aug 25 1992

[Signature]

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PAGE TWO DE RUCNFB 0023 UNCLAS E F T O

HIS EXAMINATION AND NOTES OF THE "JOHN DOE" POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION. IF THE EXAMINATION AND NOTES/QUESTIONS ARE OBTAINED THEY SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE POLYGRAPH UNIT, FBIHQ, FOR REVIEW.

ADMINISTRATIVE

THE NEW YORK DIVISION SHOULD CONSIDER SENDING A POLYGRAPH EXAMINER TO ACCOMPANY THE INTERVIEWING AGENT TO PROVIDE POLYGRAPH EXPERTISE.

BT

#2323

NNNN

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- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription

8/20/92

[REDACTED] date of birth [REDACTED], was contacted at the FCI. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED] ANTHONY PROVENZANO (phonetic) and [REDACTED] (phonetic). PROVENZANO was the head of a Mafia family in New Jersey, and [REDACTED] was involved with a Mafia family in [REDACTED]. PROVENZANO has since died of a heart attack.

[REDACTED] PROVENZANO, and [REDACTED] were talking, and [REDACTED] began asking PROVENZANO alot of questions. During the conversation, the topic turned to JIMMY HOFFA. [REDACTED] began asking PROVENZANO alot of questions about HOFFA. [REDACTED] advised he was not paying much attention to this conversation, but heard PROVENZANO tell [REDACTED] how HOFFA was killed, the people present, and where HOFFA was buried. [REDACTED] could not recall what was said about how HOFFA was killed and who was present when HOFFA was killed, but remembered PROVENZANO tell [REDACTED] that HOFFA was buried under the fast lane of Eisenhower Expressway and 170th Street in Detroit, Michigan.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 23 1992	
FBI - PHOENIX	

Investigation on 8/20/92 at Phoenix, Arizona File # 183A-DE-1155-846

b7C

by SA [REDACTED] llr Date dictated 8/20/92

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HOFFA Page 1673

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 8/25/92

TO : SAC, DETROIT (183A-DE-1155)
 FROM : SAC, PHOENIX (RUC)
 SUBJECT : HOFFEX;
 RICO - LCN;
 OO: Detroit

Re telephone call from SSA [REDACTED]
 Phoenix, to SSA [REDACTED] on 8/21/92.

Enclosed for Detroit are the original and two copies of an FD-302 reflecting the interview of [REDACTED]. Also enclosed for Detroit is a 1-A envelope containing the original notes of the interview of [REDACTED]

b7C

For information of Detroit, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] wrote a letter to the Phoenix Division requesting to be interviewed. On 8/20/92, [REDACTED] was interviewed and advised he overheard a conversation between [REDACTED] ANTHONY PROVENZANO (phonetic) and [REDACTED] (phonetic), in [REDACTED]. During this conversation, [REDACTED] heard PROVENZANO tell [REDACTED] that JIMMY HOFFA was buried under the fast lane of the Eisenhower Expressway at 170th Street in Detroit, Michigan.

Phoenix Division understands that no such location in Detroit, Michigan, exists.

(2) - Detroit (Enc. 4)
 1 - Phoenix

RWC/lpt
 (3)

b7C

183A-1155-847

(b)(6) (f)

b7D b7E

b7E b7F

b7G b7H

Approved: JFA/DIS Transmitted _____ Per _____
 (Number) (Time)

183A-DE-1155
RWC/lpt

Inasmuch as there is no further investigation,
Phoenix Division is placing this case in RUC status.

2*

HOFFA, Page 1675

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT

(183A-1155)

Date 9-18-92

From : SA [REDACTED]

b7C

Subject : HOFFEX

Re: " A CURRENT AFFAIR " Program on Friday, 7-23-92.

On the aforementioned program, an unidentified individual admitted to being involved in the murder of JIMMY HOFFA. The show placed great emphasis on the individual passing a polygraph test given by Nat Laurendi, a retired New York City Detective and well established polygrapher.

The "Current Affair" Staff has withheld the individuals identity and is not willing to release it to the FBI. Additionally, A/SAC Don North of the New York Division stated the office has had difficulty with the program staff in the past. Subsequently, this angle will not be pursued at this time.

[REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] the NY case agent, ph# [REDACTED], interviewed [REDACTED] (Request Confidentiality) reported the individual was identified as JOE KEN FRANCE, dob 12-21-22, pob Balt., Md. by the program staff to [REDACTED]

b7C b7D FBI-NY office inquiries were negative on FRANCE. Note, A/SAC North advised that when former SAC Ken Walton when assigned to NY had an informant known as [REDACTED], nothing further. NY files were negative on FRANCE and the NY Informant files were negative on [REDACTED]

NY is forwarding a teletype to Detroit outlining the aforementioned interview and an FD-302 will follow. During the interview [REDACTED] indicated FRANCE as having some connection with Baltimore (pob) and New Orleans. Subsequently, the NY teletype will also contain leads to Baltimore and New Orleans to conduct the appropriate inquiries in further establishing the identity of FRANCE.

Detroit will consider contacting former SAC Walton to ascertain the details regarding [REDACTED] and , if by chance, they are one in the same.

SA [REDACTED] later advised FBIHQ-Ident Section conducted a manual search on JOE KEN FRANCE and identified a match with same dob and FBI# 606-300A. Ident has requested the entire file on the individual and will forward same to both, NY and Detroit.

I - 183A-1155
TMC:tmc

HOFFA, Page 1676

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0023 MRI 01725

RR RUCNFB FBIAT FBIBA FBIDE FBIJK FBIMM FBINO FBITP

DE FBINY #0086 2622202

ZNY EEEEZ

R 182049Z SEP 92

FM FBI NEW YORK (9A-8399) (C24)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/ROUTINE/

FBI ATLANTA/ROUTINE/

FBI BALTIMORE/ROUTINE/

FBI DETROIT (183A-1155) (C-8)/ROUTINE/

FBI JACKSONVILLE/ROUTINE/

FBI MIAMI/ROUTINE/

FBI NEW ORLEANS/ROUTINE/

FBI TAMPA/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //3540//

PASS: DETROIT FOR SSA [REDACTED] b7c

SUBJECT: HOFFEX; OO: DETROIT

b7C, b7D

ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1992 NEW YORK INTERVIEWED [REDACTED]

183A-1155 - 849

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 18 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

9/18/92
JMK

[Signature]

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PAGE TWO DE FBI NY 6286 UNCLAS E F T O

(PROTECT IDENTITY) CONCERNING THE IDENTITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL
WHO PURPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE ABDUCTION AND MURDER
OF JIMMY HOFFA IN JULY 1975.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

THE SUBJECT WAS IDENTIFIED AS JOE FRANCE, W/M, 5'7", 190
LBS., DOB: 12-21-22, POB: BALTIMORE, MD. SUBJECT PURPORTED
TO HAVE LIVED HIS WHOLE LIFE IN THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES
(HE MENTIONED NEW ORLEANS). SUBJECT STATED THAT HE HAD A LONG
ARREST RECORD, INCLUDING FEDERAL PROSECUTIONS. HE STATED THAT
HE HAD SERVED TIME IN THE FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY IN
ATLANTA, GA. [REDACTED] STATED THAT "A CURRENT AFFAIR" HAD HIRED
A PRIVATE INVESTIGATION SERVICE TO VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF THE
SUBJECT THROUGH UNITED STATES MILITARY RECORDS. HE STATED
THAT THEY WERE SATISFIED AS TO THIS BEING THE SUBJECT'S TRUE
IDENTITY.

THE FBI IDENTIFICATION DIVISION HAS CONFIRMED THE
EXISTENCE OF A CRIMINAL RECORD FOR [REDACTED] KENNETH FRANCE, BORN
1922, FBI NUMBER 606-300A (LAST PLACE ARRESTED, ORLANDO FLA.
(NO DATE)). MANUAL INDICES INDICATES THAT SOME OF THE FILE

b7C

PAGE THREE DE FBINY 0086 UNCLAS E F T O

MAY HAVE BEEN PURGED. IDENTIFICATION IS CURRENTLY PULLING THE
FILE AND WILL SEND A COPY TO NEW YORK.

[REDACTED] STATED THAT FRANCE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING [REDACTED] b7C/b7D
INFORMATION:

FRANCE PURPORTED TO BE A CAREER CRIMINAL AND "HITMAN"
WHILE IN FEDERAL PRISON IN ATLANTA HE MET NICK ACCARDO
(PHONETIC). [REDACTED]

IN 1975 HE WAS CONTACTED BY A PERSON WHO WAS FROM THE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO GO TO DETROIT AND CHECK INTO A
SPECIFIED HOTEL AND WAIT TO BE CONTACTED. IN DETROIT HE WAS
CONTACTED BY [REDACTED] (PHONETIC). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
IN DETROIT, [REDACTED] INTRODUCED HIM TO SAL (LNU), WHO IN TURN
INTRODUCED HIM TO [REDACTED] (LNU) AND ANOTHER PERSON WHOSE NAME
HE DID NOT LEARN; HOWEVER HE LOOKED ITALIAN. THESE MEN HAD
NEVER MET PRIOR TO THIS TIME.

FRANCE STATED THAT THEY WERE CONTRACTED TO DO A "HIT"
FOR \$20,000.00. THE PERSON TO BE HIT WAS NOT IDENTIFIED. ALL
FOUR MET AT A JUNKYARD IN DETROIT AND SAL PROVIDED [REDACTED] AND
THE ITALIAN WITH "FEDERAL ID". [REDACTED] AND THE ITALIAN LEFT THE

PAGE FOUR DE FEINY 0036 UNCLAS E F T O

JUNKYARD IN A BLACK SEDAN WITH A BLACK MALE DRIVER. SAL AND FRANCE REMAINED AT THE JUNKYARD. THEY RETURNED LATER WITH AN INDIVIDUAL IN THE CARE. THEY ALL THEN GOT INTO A VAN AND LEFT THE AREA. AT THIS TIME FRANCE RECOGNIZED THE INDIVIDUAL AS JIMMY HOFFA (HOFFA WAS DESCRIBED AS WEARING TAN SLACKS, WHITE SHIRT, AND A GRAY CHECKED SPORT COAT). THEY DROVE FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE AND ONE HALF HOURS BEFORE THEY CAME TO A PLACE WHERE THEY GOT INTO A MOTOR LAUNCH. HOFFA HAD BEEN SEDATED BY SAL DURING THIS TRIP. SAL TOOK THEM OUT INTO "DEEP" WATER. THE ONLY LANDMARK HE RECALLED WAS WHAT WAS REFERRED TO BY SOMEONE ON THE BOAT AS A "NAVAL PIER". LEAD "PIGS" WERE TAPPED TO HOFFA'S LEGS AND ALL FOUR DROPPED HIM OVER THE SIDE. THEY THEN RETURNED TO DETROIT AND WERE PAID FOR THE JOB. SAL TOOK FRANCE TO THE AIRPORT AND HE NEVER SAW THEM AGAIN.

(1) [REDACTED] STATED THAT FRANCE HAD PASSED A POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION AS TO THIS STORY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STATED THAT THE PICTURE OF FRANCE IN AN ARTICLE BY THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, DATED JULY 24, 1992 IS A TRUE PHOTOGRAPH OF FRANCE.

b7C
b7D

(1) - The author of this report is [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Reports
as of 10/10/92 - [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] - [REDACTED]
70 "

PAGE FIVE DE FBINY 0086 UNCLAS E F T O

NEW YORK WILL CONTINUE THE INVESTIGATION TO VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF JOE KEN FRANCE. NEW YORK WILL PROVIDE DETROIT WITH COPIES OF RECORDS OBTAINED FROM IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.

LEADS:

ATLANTA DIVISION AT ATLANTA GA.: :

CONDUCT INDICES CHECK, LOCAL CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK, AND ALL OTHER LOGICAL CHECKS TO VERIFY THAT IDENTITY OF JOE KEN FRANCE, DOB 12-21-22. FRANCE STATED THAT HE SERVED TIME IN THE ATLANTA FEDERAL PRISON. FRANCE MAY HAVE LIVED IN THE AREA. REPLY SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DETROIT DIVISION.

BALTIMORE DIVISION AT BALTIMORE MD.: :

CONDUCT INDICES CHECK, LOCAL CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK, AND ALL OTHER LOGICAL CHECKS TO VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF JOE KEN FRANCE, DOB 12-21-22. FRANCE STATES THAT HE WAS BORN IN BALTIMORE AND WENT TO SCHOOL IN THE AREA. REPLY SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DETROIT DIVISION.

JACKSONVILLE DIVISION AT JACKSONVILLE FLA.: :

CONDUCT INDICES CHECK, LOCAL CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK, AND ALL OTHER LOGICAL CHECKS TO VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF JOE KEN FRANCE, DOB 12-21-22. FRANCE MAY HAVE LIVED IN THE AREA.

PAGE SIX DE FBINY 0086 UNCLAS S F T O

REPLY SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DETROIT DIVISION,

MIAMI DIVISION AT MIAMI, FLA.:

CONDUCT INDICES CHECK, LOCAL CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK
AND ALL OTHER LOGICAL CHECKS TO VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF JOE
KEN FRANCE, DOB 12-21-22. FRANCE MAY HAVE LIVED IN THE
AREA. REPLY SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DETROIT DIVISION.

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.:

CONDUCT INDICES CHECK, LOCAL CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK,
AND ALL OTHER LOGICAL CHECKS TO VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF JOE
KEN FRANCE, DOB 12-21-22. FRANCE STATED HE HAD LIVED IN
NEW ORLEANS. REPLY SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DETROIT DIVISION.

TAMPA DIVISION AT TAMPA FLA.:

CONDUCT INDICES CHECK, LOCAL CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK,
AND ALL OTHER LOGICAL CHECKS TO VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF JOE KEN
FRANCE, DOB 12-21-22. IDENTIFICATION DIVISION HAS ADVISED
THAT THE LAST REPORTED ARREST OF FRANCE WAS IN ORLANDO FLA.,
DATE UNKNOWN. FRANCE MAY HAVE LIVED IN THE AREA. REPLY
SHOULD BE MADE TO THE DETROIT DIVISION.

BT

#0086

NNNN

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (183A-1155)

Date 9-19-92

From : SA [REDACTED] b7c

Subject : HOFFEX

Re : [REDACTED] b7A

[REDACTED]

On 9-18-92, the writer discussed progressing the [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] with SSA [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED]. The purpose of the discussion was to determine what the next step is, if any, to take as a result of [REDACTED]

b7A

Subsequently, it was determined the writer will :

- a. gather all pertinent data from the case agent regarding the [REDACTED]
- b. provide a written opinion prepared by either the U.S Attorney's Office or the FBI Detroit and with concurrence of the other as to -

1.

[REDACTED] concerning
I. the Hoffa case
II. the current case

2.

[REDACTED] concerning

b7E

the current case

The crux of the matter is -

[REDACTED] approaching [REDACTED] with
the main emphasis on [REDACTED]

The aforementioned information will be processed and forwarded to Quantico for [REDACTED] in conjunction with FBI Detroit and the U.S Attorney's Office, EDM.

183A-1155-850

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 2 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

I - 183A-1155
TMC:tmc

0002 MRI 01842

RR FBIDE

DE FBI JK #0006 2680007

ZNR UUUUU

R 232229Z SEP 92

FM FBI JACKSONVILLE (183A-DE-1155) (RUC)

TO FBI DETROIT (SOIC-8)/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3330//

PASS: SSA [REDACTED] DTC

SUBJECT: HOFFEX, OG: DE.

RE NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, 9/18/92.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF DETROIT, JACKSONVILLE INDICES

REVIEWED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS REGARDING JOE KENNETH FRANCE,

WHITE MALE, DOB 12/21/22, FBI NO. 606-300A.

CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS THROUGH THE NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION CENTER AND THE FLORIDA CRIME INFORMATION CENTER
NEGATIVE REGARDING FRANCE. DRIVER'S LICENSE RECORDS AND DMV RECORDS FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA ALSO NEGATIVE. LOCAL

183A-1155-851

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 23 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

DTC

9/23/92
Watt

HOFFA Page 1684

PAGE TWO DE FBI JK 0006 UNCLAS

JACKSONVILLE SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECORDS ALSO NEGATIVE.

NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED BY JACKSONVILLE

BT

#0006

NNNN

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 9/21/92

TO : SAC, DETROIT (183A-1155) (C-8)
 (ATTN: SSA [REDACTED])

FROM : ADIC, NEW YORK (9A-8399) (C-24) (P)

SUBJECT : HOFFEX
 (OO: DETROIT)

b7c

[REDACTED] RE: Telephone conversation between Detroit SSA [REDACTED] and New York SA [REDACTED] this date.

Enclosed for the Detroit Office are two copies of a criminal history of Joseph Kenneth FRANCE, DOB: 12-21-22.

On September 21, 1992, the Identification Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, telefaxed the criminal history of Joseph Kenneth France to the New York Office. New York is providing Detroit copy of same.

b7c [REDACTED]
 Roffex 10/28/92
 10/15/92

281A-DG-L7821-

183A-1155 - 853

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 25 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

2 - DETROIT (183A-1155) (ENCLOSURES)
 1 - NEW YORK (9A-8399)

cc: DGL
 (3)

Approved: *J. McPherson*

Transmitted

(Number) (Time)

Per

HOFFEX Page 1686

MASTER
1-4 (Rev. 7-19-77)

MASTER

MASTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20537

Use of the following FBI record, NUMBER **606 300 A**, is REGULATED BY LAW. It is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY and should ONLY BE USED FOR PURPOSE REQUESTED. When further explanation of arrest charge or disposition is needed, communicate directly with the agency that contributed the fingerprints.

CONTINUATOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	Joseph Kenneth France 13 023 932	2-5-41		
PM Schofield TH	Joseph K. A-0339	12-18-42	mail conversion	6 mos conf
S-2 762nd MP Bn APO 957, c/o PM San Fran Calif	Joseph K France A-0339	5-30-44	rob 93rd Art of War	
NWB USDB Ft Missoula Mont	Joseph K France 13023932	FP 10-13-44	GP AUS	see supplement
Army	Joseph Kenneth France RA 13 023 932	1-22-47		
St H of C Jessup Md	Joseph France 70-971	6-8-53	FP aslt	3 yrs - 3 yr ea c/c
PD Atlanta Ga	Joseph Kenneth France 174459	6-7-56	ITSP Auth 9-24-56 (USP)	3 yrs custody AG rel to Fed on chg of ITSP
USM Atlanta Ga	Joseph Kenneth France 020305	6-7-56	forg chks interstate trans false securities	
USP Atlanta Ga	Joseph Kenneth France 77802	9-24-56	trans forg chk interstate warr issued	3 yrs CR 10-3-58 VIO of par 1-8-59 2-9-59
PD Atlanta Ga	Joseph Kenneth France 174459	1-8-59	susp forg	not gilty by reason of insanity on chg forg supplement
SINCE NEITHER FINGERPRINTS NOR AN IDENTIFYING NUMBER WHICH IS INDEXED IN OUR FILES ACCOMPANIED YOUR REQUEST, THE FBI CANNOT GUARANTEE IN ANY MANNER THAT THIS MATERIAL CONCERNING THE INDIVIDUAL IN WHOM YOU ARE INTERESTED.				

MASTER
L4 Rev. 9-30-68

MASTER

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

2

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

The following FBI record, NUMBER 606 300 A is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Atlanta Ga	Joseph Kenneth France #174459	1-8-59	susp forg	not glty by reason of inf sanity on schg of forg see supplement
USP Atlanta Ga	Joseph Kenneth France #77802	5-6-60	CRV trans forg chks I/S	352 das
Med Center for Fed Prisoners Springfield Mo	Joseph Kenneth France #13045-H	8-6-60 reccd MCFP fm A	CRV-transporting forg chks I/S (3) chgs	5-21-56 9-21-56 3-3 yrs sent to operate conc 1-26-61 min exp w/6 EGT
USM Topeka Kans	Joseph Kenneth France #250-2512	8-11-66	unl flight St of Ga	8-16-66 TOT St Auth Shawnee Co Kansas <i>all right</i>
SO Topeka Kans	Joseph Kenneth France #1467-3021	8-11-66	unl flight	
PD Orlando Fla	Herbert Rowan #32507	9-30-66	assigntion (prost)	\$500 Est on chg of Ind Con (homo \$500 bond Est on chg of assigntion (prost)
USM New Orleans La	Joseph Kenneth France #4890	2-6-67	unlawful flight	TOT N.O.P.D. 2-15-67
PD New Orleans La	Joseph Kenneth France #125-220	2-15-67	fug Georgia, forg	TOT New Orleans PD Department Fugitive Division
PD New Orleans LA	Joseph K. France 125-220	11-3-73	cont del juv	

HOFFA, Page 1688

Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. Where final disposition is not shown or further explanation of charge is desired, communicate with agency contributing those fingerprints.

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1964 6-571-687

* GPO : 1975 O - 599-480
MASTER
1-4 (Rev. 5-9-72)

MASTER

MASTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

3

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD New Orleans LA	Joseph K France 125-220	7-1-76	Cultivation of Marij Poss Marij	Refused 7-19-76
PD New Orleans LA	Joseph K France 125-220	4-17-78	poss marij 4lbs, with intent distribution	
SO Gretna LA	Joseph K France 87724 SID 665329	6-30-80	Conspiracy to commit murder	dism 1-25-82
SO Gretna LA	Joseph K France 87724 SID 665 329	7-22-80	RS 14-69.b poss stln things	10 yrs hard labor
Hunt Cerr Ctr St Gabriel LA	Joseph Kenneth France 95 356 SID 665 329	7-9-81	Receiving stln things	10 yrs
SO Gretna LA	Joseph K France 87724 SID 665329	10-29-81	agg oral sexual battery molestation of juv (2cts) sale dist/exib porno material juv (3 cts) indecent behavior ju sexual battery	
	SINCE NEITHER FINGERPRINTS NOR AN IDENTIFYING NUMBER WHICH IS INDEXED IN OUR FILES ACCOMPANIED YOUR REQUEST, THE FBI CANNOT GUARANTEE IN ANY MANNER THAT THIS MATERIAL CONCERNING THE INDIVIDUAL IN WHOM YOU ARE INTERESTED.			

MASTER
1-4 (Rev. 3-9-72)

MASTER

MASTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	#174459, ordered comm to Ga Shosp Milledgeville Ga 5-5 yrs susp on chg of forg 4-20-60			
	#13023932 10-13-44 Convicted by General Court Martial on 4-7-44 and confined at Ft. Leavenworth Kans & Ft Missoula Mon to 3-27-46 where he was honorably restored to duty.			

SUPPLEMENT

SINCE NEITHER FINGERPRINTS NOR AN IDENTIFYING NUMBER WHICH IS INDEXED IN OUR FILES ACCOMPANIED YOUR REQUEST, THE FBI CANNOT GUARANTEE IN ANY MANNER THAT THIS MATERIAL CONCERN'S THE INDIVIDUAL IN WHOM YOU ARE INTERESTED.

HOFFA, Page 1690

MASTER
I-4b (Rev. 7-19-77)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20537

5

Use of the following information from FBI record, NUMBER 606 300 A, is REGULATED BY LAW.
It is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY and should ONLY BE USED FOR PURPOSE REQUESTED.

Description and Related Data:

Race: White

Sex: Male

Height: 5-10

Weight: 150

Hair: Gray

Eyes: Hazel

Date and Place of Birth: 12-21-22 in Maryland

Scars and Marks: None

Address: (In 1987) 4936 Zenith St. #313
Metairie, LA

Occupation: (In 1987) Self-employed

Social Security Number: 215 12 9052

SINCE NEITHER FINGERPRINTS NOR
AN IDENTIFYING NUMBER WHICH IS
INDEXED IN OUR FILES ACCOMPANIED
YOUR REQUEST, THE FBI CANNOT
GUARANTEE IN ANY MANNER THAT
THIS MATERIAL CONCERNING THE
INDIVIDUAL IN WHOM YOU ARE
INTERESTED.

HOFFA, Page 1691

TOTAL P.06

- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription

5/5/92

On May 4, 1992, [REDACTED], also known as [REDACTED], DOB [REDACTED] SSAN [REDACTED] white male, was interviewed at his residence [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] telephone number ([REDACTED]). [REDACTED] is a [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] " [REDACTED] He was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents, Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He was also advised that the purpose of the interview was to discuss the disappearance of former Teamster President JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA and any knowledge he or [REDACTED] have about the matter.

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He advised that in late 1981 he had met FRANK RAGANO, a Tampa, Florida, attorney, through one of [REDACTED] friends, [REDACTED] learned that HOFFA had used RAGANO as an attorney in Florida.

[REDACTED] advised that in the early 1980's, RAGANO had been [REDACTED] Around 1982 - 1983, [REDACTED] met with RAGANO and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] attorney RAGANO, was going to tell what really happened to HOFFA. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] reported that he had read seven or eight books about HOFFA [REDACTED] advised that he met with RAGANO [REDACTED] several times [REDACTED]

b7C/b7D

281-DE-67821-SG3X1

File # 183A-DE-1155-1

Investigation on 5/4/92

b7C

SAs

PGK/pqk

Date dictated

5/5/92

HOFFA, Page 1692

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183A-DE-1155

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 5/4/93 , Page 2

With regard to the actual killing of HOFFA
in RAGANO's office in Florida.

[REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

183A-DE-1155

Continuation of FD-302 of

, On 5/4/93 , Page 3

was asked whether he still had any of

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] was asked whether he believed the story that [REDACTED] stated he definitely believed

The agents asked [REDACTED] responded that [REDACTED] was asked who told him that. And also how would have known that? The agents told [REDACTED]

this. did not explain any of

car bombing of RICHARD FITZSIMMONS had knowledge of the car on July 10, 1975.

added

was reportedly responsible for sending a head from the morgue to
the Detroit Free Press.

183A-DE-1155

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 5/4/93 , Page 4

b7C [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] told him that [REDACTED] RAGANO thought
b7D that HOFFA [REDACTED] and JOSEPHINE [REDACTED]
HOFFA's wife, were best friends.

[REDACTED] relayed that RAGANO was in trouble with the IRS
about six months ago. RAGANO wrote a book entitled, "Mob
Lawyer," which indicates that HOFFA and the mob killed JOHN F.
KENNEDY. [REDACTED] stated that RAGANO is crazy and there is no truth
to this at all. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that RAGANO was
completely trustworthy in [REDACTED] [REDACTED], but he doesn't believe him now.

FBI

b7c C-8

TRANSMIT VIA:
 Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:
 Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:
 TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 10/6/92

281A-DE-67821
 FM FBI DETROIT (183A-DE-1155) (C-8)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/ROUTINE/
 FBI NEW YORK (9A-8399) (C-24)/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CITE: //3220//

OC/DO

PASS: FBIHQ - SSA [REDACTED] BE/DD, SECTION NUMBER TWO

[b7C] (INFORMATION ONLY) - LABORATORY DIVISION, POLYGRAPH UNIT

(INFORMATION ONLY) - SSA [REDACTED] NEW YORK SA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (ACTION).

HOFFA
 SUBJECT: ~~HOFFA 183A-DE-1155~~; OO: DETROIT.

REFERENCE NEW YORK TELETYPE TO FBIHQ, DATED SEPTEMBER 18,
 1992.

ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1992, NEW YORK INTERVIEWED [REDACTED]
 (PROTECT IDENTITY) CONCERNING [REDACTED]

TMC/gjs
 (1)

281A-DE-67821-854

SEARCHED *th*
 SERIALIZED *th*
 INDEXED *th*
 FILED *th*

Approved: *HJM/bb* Original filename: *G1500W.280 S1500W.280*
 Time Received: *11/14/92* Telprep filename: *G1500250.280 S1500150.280*
 MRI/JULIAN DATE: *16295* | *280* ISBN: *021* | *4-WS*
 FOX DATE & TIME OF ACCEPTANCE: *10-6-92 / 20216*

HOFFA, Page 1696

[^]PAGE 2 (183A-DE-1155) UNCLAS E F T O

[REDACTED] JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE [REDACTED] CONCERNING THE ABDUCTION AND
MURDER OF JIMMY HOTTEY IN JULY 1975.

b7c
b7d NEW YORK DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

1. OBTAIN [REDACTED]

BY [REDACTED] AND FORWARD SAME TO [REDACTED] FBIHQ FOR
REVIEW AND ANALYSIS AS PER HQ.

2. DETERMINE THE LOCATION OF JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE AND A
CONTACT POINT IN ORDER THAT DETROIT ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW OF
FRANCE. IF THE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN, ADVISE DETROIT OF ANY
POSSIBLE LEADS TO PURSUE. TO DATE, ALL RESPONSES FROM THE
LEAD OFFICES IDENTIFIED IN REFERENCED TELETYPE HAVE BEEN
NEGATIVE.

BT

C-8

0038 MRI 01589

RR FBIDE

DE FBIBA #0018 2822237

ZNR UUUUU

R 082058Z OCT 92

FM FBI BALTIMORE (183A-DE-1155) (RUC)

TO FBI DETROIT (183A-DE-1155) (C-8)/ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3050;SQ 8//

SUBJECT: HOFFEX, OO: DETROIT

- RE DE TELETYPE, SEPTEMBER 18, 1992.

BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, REVEALED THAT A JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE WAS BORN TO LEWIS AND JOSEPHINE FRANCE ON DECEMBER 21, 1922. THE CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH INDICATES THAT LEWIS FRANCE WAS AGE 24 AND JOSEPHINE FRANCE WAS AGE 21 AT THE TIME OF JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE'S BIRTH. LEWIS FRANCE PROVIDED AN ADDRESS OF 1828 RUTLAND AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND. HOSPITAL OF BIRTH IS LISTED AS JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL, BALTIMORE MARYLAND.

281A DE 67821-855

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 08 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

b7c

10/18/92
WEM

HOFFA Page 1698

PAGE TWO DE FBIBA 0018 UNCLAS

A CHECK OF BALTIMORE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIMINAL RECORDS WAS NEGATIVE REGARDING JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE.

A CHECK OF MARYLAND STATE POLICE (MSP) RECORDS REVEALED THAT JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE WAS ARRESTED ON JANUARY 16, 1956, FOR ISSUING A WORTHLESS CHECK. THE ARRESTING AGENCY IS NOT INDICATED. MSP RECORDS DESCRIBE (X) FRANCE AS A WHITE MALE, DOB DECEMBER 21, 1922, POB MARYLAND, 5'10", 135 POUNDS, HAZEL EYES, BLONDE HAIR, AND LIGHT COMPLEXION (X). IN 1956, FRANCE PROVIDED AN ADDRESS OF 2209 ST. PAUL STREET, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

A CHECK OF BALTIMORE FILE 179-180 SUB R REVEALED THAT DURING THE LATE SEVENTIES AND EARLY EIGHTIES, A JOE FRANCE, AKA "DOC" WAS INVOLVED IN PLACING BETS WITH BALTIMORE BOOKMAKERS NAMED [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED].

A REVIEW OF 92-126 SUB B REVEALED THAT IN 1976 AND 1977, FRANCE WAS OPERATING AS A BOOKMAKER IN THE BALTIMORE AREA. INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED WITH FRANCE WERE [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] THE NICKNAME "DOC" IN REGARDS TO FRANCE APPEARS IN 179-180 SUB R, BUT BA FILE 92-126, "ORGANIZED CRIME PROGRAM" INDICATES THAT FRANCE HAD A [REDACTED]

ELSUR AND CIU INDICES NEGATIVE REGARDING FRANCE.

PAGE THREE DE FBIBA 0018 UNCLAS

IN VIEW OF NO OUTSTANDING LEADS, THIS MATTER IS
CONSIDERED RUC.

BT

#0018

NNNN

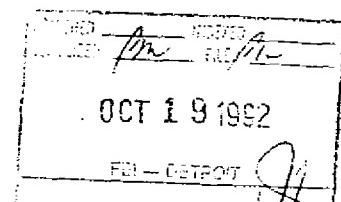
- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/15/92

[REDACTED] On 10/14/92, SA [REDACTED] met with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] provided [REDACTED]

b7C JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE.
b7C original documents to [REDACTED] as requested.



Investigation on 10/14/92 at New York, NY File # 9A-8399

b7C by SA [REDACTED] ja

Date dictated 10/15/92

HOFFA, Page 1701

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 10/15/92

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
 (ATTN: LABORATORY DIVISION, [REDACTED])

FROM : ADIC, NEW YORK (9A-8399) (C-24) (RUC)

SUBJECT : HOFFEX;
 (OO: DETROIT)

Re Detroit Teletype to Director, dated 10/6/92 and
 New York Teletype to Director, dated 9/18/92.

Enclosed for [REDACTED] are two copies of a
 FD-302 concerning [REDACTED] and one envelope containing all
 [REDACTED] prepared by [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] of JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE. This is a
 supplement to the facsimile sent to the [REDACTED] by NYO
 on 10/14/92.

b7D Enclosed for Detroit are the original and two
 copies of the FD-302 concerning [REDACTED]

New York is unaware of FRANCE's whereabouts.
 Referenced New York teletype set appropriate leads for further
 investigation concerning FRANCE's location.

This matter is considered RUC.

- 2 - FBIHQ (Enclosures 3)
 (Attn: Laboratory Division, [REDACTED])
 ② - Detroit (183A-DE-1155) (Enclosures 3)
 1 - New York (9A-8399)

JJA:ja

(5)

281A-DE-67821-857

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 19 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

Approved: _____

Transmitted

(Number) (Time)

Per

[Signature]

HOFFA Page 1702

0012 MRI 00960

RR RUCNFB FBIDE FBINY

DE FBINO #0003 2931929

ZNR UUUUU

R 191923Z OCT 92

FM FBI NEW ORLEANS (183A-DE-1155) (RUC)

(TO DIRECTOR FBI/ROUTINE/

FBI DETROIT/ROUTINE/

FBI NEW YORK (9A-8399) (C-24)/ROUTINE/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3530:SQUAD 8//

SUBJECT: HOFFEX, OO: DETROIT.

RE NEW YORK TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR DATED SEPTEMBER 18,
1992.

AS REQUESTED IN REFERENCED TELETYPE, NEW ORLEANS HAS
COMPLETED INDICES CHECK AND FILE REVIEWS CONCERNING JOSEPH
KENNETH FRANCE, DOB: DECEMBER 21, 1922. THE FOLLOWING IS A
SUMMARY OF THOSE FILES:

381A-15-67821-858

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 19 1992	

HOFFIA Page 1703

PAGE TWO DE FBINO 0003 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] JOSEPH

KENNETH FRANCE - VICTIM

[REDACTED] FRANCE, WHITE MALE, DOB: [REDACTED]
DECEMBER 22, 1922, 5'10", 160 LBS. WAS AN INMATE AT HUNT ON
STATE CHARGES OF POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY, SERVING A
10 YEAR SENTENCE. VIA LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 2, 1982, TO SAC,
NEW ORLEANS, FRANCE CLAIMED A VIOLATION OF HIS CIVIL RIGHTS
VIA EXTORTION. FRANCE CLAIMED HE WAS FORCED TO PAY A
CORRECTION OFFICER \$100 PER MONTH OR BE ASSIGNED TO A HARD
WORK DETAIL, WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT HIS HEART CONDITION.
PROSECUTION DECLINED BY DEPT. OF JUSTICE DUE TO LACK OF
JURISDICTION.

b7c

NO 91-7965, TITLED "JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE, ET AL;
INFORMATION CONCERNING POSSIBLE ROBBERY OF TWO BANKS,
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, BANK ROBBERY; OO: JACKSON." BRIEF NEW
ORLEANS INVESTIGATION IN THIS CASE WAS BASED ON THE RECEIPT OF
SOURCE INFORMATION THAT SUBJECT [REDACTED] HAD BEEN
ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN TWO PLANNED BANK ROBBERIES WITH [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] AND JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE, WHO WAS DESCRIBED AS A WHITE
MALE, DOB: DECEMBER 22 OR 23, POB: BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, 5'10".

PAGE THREE DE FBINO 0003 UNCLAS

150 LBS. AN INTERVIEW WITH ██████████ DETERMINED THAT FRANCE WAS THE ORGANIZER OF THIS CONSPIRACY AND FRANCE WAS MOTIVATED BY REVENGE AGAINST THE SHERIFF IN THE TOWN WHERE THE ROBBERIES WILL TAKE PLACE. ██████████ WAS SENT TO THE GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI RA AGREEING TO INTRODUCE AN UNDERCOVER POLICE OFFICER TO THE GROUP. AT THIS TIME, THE MATTER WAS RUC'D.

██████████ JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE

- VICTIM: EXTORTION: OO: NEW ORLEANS. INVESTIGATION IN THIS MATTER WAS BASED UPON RECEIPT OF A LETTER BY THE U.S.

ATTORNEY, EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, FROM FRANCE; FRANCE WAS, AT THE TIME, AN INMATE IN THE LOUISIANA STATE PRISON SYSTEM, INMATE #95356, AT DIXON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE,

JACKSON, LOUISIANA. IN THE LETTER DATED JUNE 29, 1986, FRANCE CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN EXTORTED BY A CORRECTION OFFICER AND THAT HE HAD PROOF OF THREE PAYMENTS TO THE OFFICER. FRANCE WAS

LATER INTERVIEWED BY FBI AGENTS ON AUGUST 27, 1987, AFTER HIS RELEASE FROM JAIL, FRANCE WAS RESIDING AT 4936 ZENITH ST.,

APT. 313, METAIRIE, LOUISIANA, TELEPHONE 504-454-6834. FRANCE PROVIDED CERTIFIED CHECKS OF TWO \$125.00 PAYMENTS TO SUBJECT

██████████ WHO THREATENED TO ASSIGN FRANCE TO STRENUIOS WORK

PAGE FOUR DE FBINO 0003 UNCLAS

DETAILS, WHICH WOULD AGGRAVATE FRANCE'S HEART CONDITION.

UNLESS THE MONEY WAS PAID. ██████████ HAD ADMITTED TO PRISON.

██████████ OFFICIALS HE HAD RECEIVED THE MONEY FROM FRANCE AND WAS

TERMINATED BY THE STATE. FRANCE WAS DESCRIBED AS A WHITE

MALE, DOB: DECEMBER 21, 1922, SSAN: ██████████ HAZEL EYES,

BROWN HAIR, 5'9", 160 LBS. PROSECUTION WAS DECLINED.

NEW ORLEANS FILE 88-6697 AND 87-20007 ALSO HAD FRANCE'S
NAME IN THE TITLE, BUT BOTH FILES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

JOSEPH K. FRANCE HOLDS LOUISIANA DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER
5478106 WITH THE SAME DESCRIPTIVE DATA AS LISTED IN
NO 9A-3665. HE STILL LISTS HIS ADDRESS AS 4936 ZENITH, #313,
METAIRIE, LOUISIANA. THIS LICENSE HAS AN EXPIRATION DATE OF
DECEMBER 21, 1992.

LOCAL ARREST CHECK FOR FRANCE SHOWS HE HAS USED THE
FOLLOWING ALIASES: MOSES DOCTOR; FRANK THOMAS; POPPA JOE; AND
DR. MOSES. HE IS LISTED AS A POSSIBLE CAREER CRIMINAL WITH
ARRESTS FOR: SIMPLE ESCAPE; AGGRAVATED ORAL SEXUAL BATTERY;
MOLESTATION OF A JUVENILE; INDECENT BEHAVIOR WITH A JUVENILE;
FELONY POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY; POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA;
ARMED ROBBERY AND POSSESSION OF DRUGS - SCHEDULE I.

DETROIT IS REQUESTED TO DETERMINE IF NEW ORLEANS SHOULD

PAGE FIVE DE FBINO 0003 UNCLAS

ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW FRANCE CONCERNING INFORMATION
PROVIDED BY ██████████ AND DETAILED IN REFERENCED TELETYPE
NEW ORLEANS WILL PLACE THIS MATTER IN RUC STATUS UNTIL SUCH A
LEAD IS RECEIVED FROM OO.

BT

#0003

NNNN

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 10/20/92

TO : SAC, DETROIT
 FROM : *RJH* SAC, MIAMI, (183A-DE-R-1155) (D-1) (RUC)
 SUBJECT : HOFFEX
 OO: DETROIT

Re New York teletype dated 9/17/92.

Miami indices are negative regarding JOE KEN FRANCE.

The following arrest checks were conducted with negative results regarding JOE KEN FRANCE:

METRO DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT, NCIC, FCIC Miami.

(2) - Detroit
 1 - Miami
 MG:clp
 (3)

281A-DG-67821-859

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 02 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

Approved:

Transmitted

(Number) (Time)

Per

HOFFA Page 1708

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
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Section 552

- (b)(1)
- (b)(2)
- (b)(3)
- ---
- (b)(4)
- (b)(5)
- (b)(6)

- (b)(7)(A)
- (b)(7)(B)
- (b)(7)(C)
- (b)(7)(D)
- (b)(7)(E)
- (b)(7)(F)
- (b)(8)
- (b)(9)

- (d)(5)
- (j)(2)
- (k)(1)
- (k)(2)
- (k)(3)
- (k)(4)
- (k)(5)
- (k)(6)
- (k)(7)

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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Pages 1709-1712

Atlanta Police Department records
on a third party withheld in full
pertinent to telephone call to
the Atlanta PD on 2/11/02 -
(Express Confidentiality)
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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 10/26/92

TO : SAC, DETROIT (183A-1155) (C-8)
 FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (183A-DE-1155) (RUC) (SQ 10)
 SUBJECT : HOFFEX;
 OO: DETROIT

Enclosed for Detroit Division is a Rap Sheet for JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE obtained from the ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT.

b7c

Atlanta Division general indices and foims are negative referencing JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE. [REDACTED] Special Investigative Supervisor's office (SIS), UNITED STATES FEDERAL PENITENTIARY, ATLANTA (USP-A) advised on 10/6/92 that he could locate no record that FRANCE was ever an inmate at USP-A. He suggested that contact be made with the Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Locator Service in Washington, D.C., which should have a record of any individual who has been incarcerated in a Federal prison. The inmate locator service advised that they could locate no record of FRANCE.

On 10/9/92, THE GEORGIA CRIME INFORMATION CENTER (GCIC) and GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES (GDMV) data bases were negative with regard to FRANCE. On 10/15/92, THE DEKALB COUNTY and FULTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENTS advised that they had no record of arrest for FRANCE. The ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT (APD), however, was able to provide a Rap

② Detroit (Enclosure) JFM
 1-Atlanta
 FJR:pa
 (3)

281A-1-E-6-1831-83
 10/26/92
 10/26/92

Approved: [Signature]

Transmitted

(Number) (Time)

Per

183A-DE-1155

Sheet for FRANCE showing arrests from 1942 through 1966. Note that it shows that FRANCE was incarcerated at USP-A in 1956 and 1960 and that FRANCE was committed to GEORGIA STATE HOSPITAL apparently based on a court finding him to be insane in 1959. The Rap Sheet was on micro-fiche and the APD have no further information about FRANCE.

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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
281A-DE-67821 (page 1715)

- Third party rap sheet
- Local PD Record

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 10/30/92

TO : SAC, DETROIT (183A-1155) (C-8)

FROM : SAC, TAMPA (9A-DE-1155) (RUC)
SUBJECT : HOFFEX;
OO: DETROIT

Reference New York tel to Tampa, et al; 9/18/92.

Enclosed for Detroit is one copy of Orlando Police Department arrest report of Joseph Kenneth France.

Referenced teletype requested Tampa to conduct indices check, local criminal history check, and all other logical checks to verify the identity of Joe Ken France, DOB 12/21/22. New York further advised the Identification Division had advised the last reported arrest of France was in Orlando, Florida, date unknown.

A criminal record check conducted with the Orlando Police Department revealed an arrest on 9/30/66 for a Joseph Kenneth France, 1208 W. Central, Orlando, Florida, DOB 4/14/28, POB San Francisco, California. The arrest report reflects France was 38 years of age, W/M, employed as Office Manager Trainee, Suburban Propane Gas Company. France was arrested for offering and agreeing to commit an indecent and lewd act by agreeing to commit act of oral copulation. Bond was placed at \$500.00 on 10/18/66. Disposition is not known. It should be noted the report reflects Joseph Kenneth France an alias for Robert (NMI) Rowan.

- (1) - Detroit (Enc. 1)
 1 - Tampa
 MVV:kld
 (2)

b7c

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____
 (Number) (Time) Per _____

Criminal record check with Tampa Police Department,
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and the Orange County
Sheriff's Office proved negative.

Tampa indices negative for Joseph Kenneth France
and Robert (NMI) Rowan.

A Real Estate Data Information (REDI) check of
property records, state-wide, proved negative.

AIRTEL

UNCLASSIFIED

10/22/92

SAC, Detroit (183A-DE-1155)

Director, FBI
Laboratory Division,

HOFFEX;
(OO: DETROIT)

~~Re Detroit Teletype to Director, dated 10/6/92 and New York Teletype to Director 9/18/92 and 10/15/92. Enclosed for Detroit are~~

b7C
b7D [REDACTED] FBIHQ Polygraph Unit Quality Control Supervisor has conducted a review [REDACTED] concerning the [REDACTED] of JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE on 6/23/92.

results were reported as

2

- B -

5

It is the finding of the Bureau

that

৭৮

is recommended that an FBI polygraph examiner conduct a re-examination of Joseph Kenneth France.

② - Detroit (183A-DE-1155) (Enclosures 27)
2 - New York (9A-8399)

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
DEC 11 1992
FBI - BOSTON

HOFFA. Page 171B

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FOIPA
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 (b)(4) (b)(5) (b)(6)

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281A-1DE-67821 Serial 865 (Pages 2-37) (Pages 1719-1745)

Information provided by a source with expressed confidentiality

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FBI/DOJ

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

ANOTHER LEAD TO NOWHERE

BY JACK KRESNAK AND JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writers
© 1992, Detroit Free Press



ally Quarles was hot, tired, frustrated and itching like mad.

The Bloomfield Township Police detective had just spent eight hours on a scorching Saturday rooting around a cornfield and woods south of Jackson, searching for the body of Jimmy Hoffa.

Quarles had been working the Hoffa case for three days with virtually no sleep when he got the tip around 1 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, about the cornfield. The caller wouldn't give a name, but he sounded good, he knew things, and his directions were precise.

So Quarles, desperate for a lead, had headed west at first light and assembled a posse of a dozen cops to help.

But it had been a totally wasted day — at a time when the beleaguered Bloomfield Township department didn't have a day to waste on the biggest case in its history.

On top of it all, Quarles had gotten poison ivy and was facing a two-hour trip home with painfully irritated hands, arms and legs.

"That was the most miserable ride of my life," the detective said. Even with medication, it was a week before Quarles' suffering eased.

That first weekend after his father vanished, Jimmy Hoffa's son James was feeling sick, too.

Increasingly, he was convinced that Chuckie O'Brien, the Teamster his father had once treated like a son, was involved in what probably was the murder of Jimmy Hoffa. No matter how much leeway he allowed, the young Hoffa couldn't account for O'Brien's time on the Wednesday afternoon Hoffa's father disappeared from the parking lot of the Machus Red Fox restaurant at Maple and Telegraph roads.

O'Brien and young Hoffa had parted on bad terms before dawn Friday when Hoffa refused to stop grilling O'Brien about his whereabouts on the day in question. O'Brien had promised, though, to begin some groundwork for his own investigation of the mystery.

O'Brien had once been a special assistant to Jimmy Hoffa, the union leader's right-hand man for whatever needed doing. But now, his reputation was becoming that of a loudmouth, gossip and hanger-on.

O'Brien was then way down the list of people police wanted to interview about Hoffa. Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, the reputed



See HOFFA, Page 5A

Date: 12/21/92
Edition: DETROIT FREE PRESS
pp. 1, 5, 6, & 7A

Title: LEADS TO NOWHERE

Character: HOFFA

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: DETROIT

Indexing:

231-A DE-47821-866

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 21 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

HOFFA, Page 1746

HOFFA, from Page 1A

organized crime captain Hoffa said he was going to meet the day he vanished was still at the top.

In fact, while police sweated and young Hoffa fretted on that Saturday, O'Brien and Giacalone, the man he called Uncle Tony, were in the cool confines of the barbershop at the Southfield Athletic Club.

Jeffrey Schultz, the club's executive vice president, said he was surprised to see Giacalone show up that day, because of all the publicity linking him to Hoffa.

But Giacalone told Schultz he was "not about to hide my head in a hole because of some lousy news stories."

O'Brien left the club just ahead of Giacalone and noticed Uncle Tony's "security" — the undercover police who had been tailing him for two days.

That night, O'Brien attended the wedding of his friend Bobby Adell, the former Detroit fire commissioner whose wealthy brother, Marvin, had been letting O'Brien live in his basement since O'Brien's divorce. O'Brien stayed at the wedding reception until 3 a.m. but was up at 7:30 to catch a ride to Metro Airport from Hymie Cooper, an employee of Marvin Adell.

O'Brien was getting ready to kiss Detroit good-bye and take a Teamsters job near Miami arranged for him by Frank Fitzsimmons, the union president who had succeeded Hoffa and then drawn Hoffa's public wrath for the way he ran the nation's largest labor organization.

During the ride, O'Brien looked out the back window of Cooper's car and said, "I'll bet they're following me."

But nobody was.

The FBI takes over

Nothing was going right for the local and state police trying to crack the case.

A tape recorder police had given the Hoffa family to record all their telephone calls kept eating the tapes. Finally a detective went out and bought a new Sony.

But Sunday at 6:30 p.m. came good news.

The FBI called and announced they were assuming jurisdiction.

Previously barred from taking on a purely local missing person case, the FBI now said communications had been received demanding a ransom for Hoffa and implying he had been taken across state lines. That was enough to make a federal case of it — and bring to bear the FBI's massive, nationwide resources and expertise, the same force that spent a decade gathering the evidence that sent Jimmy Hoffa to prison for almost five years.

The communications were never fully explained, but Bloomfield Township police were too relieved to ask many questions.

Within the hour, FBI agent Bob Umann, who had been informally visiting the local police, and agents Bob Garrity and Mort Nichol were at the Hoffa cottage, reinterviewing family members.

James Hoffa, a near match for his father in intensity, immediately told the agents that the family considered Chuckie O'Brien the "prime suspect." He said O'Brien had stolen money from his father, thrown in with the Giacalones to extricate himself from serious personal financial problems, and had shunned Jimmy Hoffa's overtures at reconciliation.

In the spare language of the bureau's internal communication, an agent sent a report to FBI headquarters in Washington:

"Detroit has determined that Giacalones were aware of O'Brien's financial plight . . . and insured commitment of O'Brien by furnishing him with the financing he needed."

"It is the belief of James P. Hoffa that O'Brien was instrumental and a direct participant in disappearance of

Hoffa, and planning of events leading up to disappearance."

Agents also were given a note written by Hoffa that seemed to be his itinerary for Wednesday, July 30: "TG 2:30 Wed 14 Mile Tel Fox Rest Maple Road."

On Sunday morning, Aug. 3, other agents arrived at the Hoffa cottage to install equipment to monitor all calls. One agent was finishing a connection when he tapped into a conversation of Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer.

"No, I'm very surprised," she was saying about the G-men who had dogged her father for years. "Actually, they're very nice."

They were also very intense.

A Southfield real estate broker who had shaken Hoffa's hand in the Red Fox lot was visited at least nine times by the FBI in the first few weeks of the investigation. He said news accounts of Mafia involvement terrified him and he insists to this day on anonymity.

"I was afraid to turn the ignition on my car," he said. "It really got to me."

While the heat was on in Detroit, Chuckie O'Brien was in West Memphis, Ark., enjoying a brief reunion with his new bride. When federal investigators reached him, O'Brien agreed to talk, but wanted to meet on friendly turf.

So, a meeting was arranged for the afternoon of Aug. 6 at Teamsters headquarters on Trumbull in Detroit.

There, for the first time, investigators heard Chuckie's fish story and about the borrowing of Joey Giacalone's car. O'Brien also revealed that

after dropping off a salmon sent as a gift to Teamsters official Bobby Comes, he had stopped by the Southfield Athletic Club to see Anthony Giacalone.

O'Brien said he stayed just briefly with Uncle Tony, leaving by 3 p.m. to beat rush hour traffic.

Agents were intrigued as O'Brien went on to mention his visit to Giacalone's condominium the day after Hoffa vanished, a dinner the next evening with the Giacalone family at the St. Clair Inn, and his Saturday visit with Uncle Tony back at the club.

How could Chuckie so nonchalantly socialize with a man publicly implicated in the Hoffa case?

"It was personal time," O'Brien would explain years later. "We were almost family."

He said "Dad and Uncle Tony" — as O'Brien referred to Hoffa and Anthony Giacalone — would never meet anywhere so public as the Red Fox. For two such well-known figures, "it'd be like meeting on television on the Channel 7 News," he said.

O'Brien characterized his supposed falling out with Hoffa and Hoffa's reported feud with mob-connected New Jersey Teamster Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano as "all just newspaper talk."

O'Brien said he had been in the Memphis area since leaving Detroit three days earlier. He neglected to mention a stop at Teamsters headquarters in Washington for a meeting with Fitzsimmons.

Bloomfield Township Lt. Curt Grennier said the session left him feeling that a smug O'Brien was trying to hoodwink the police.

"It was like he was saying 'Ask me any question you want, but you're not going to learn a whole lot,'" Grennier said. "We kept pressing and pressing. . . . We were pretty sure that he wasn't telling us everything, not that he was lying, but he wasn't divulging some things."

As the detectives left Teamsters headquarters on Trumbull near Tiger Stadium, they were mobbed by reporters and cameramen who followed them down the sidewalk. But, the police weren't talking.

Then a reporter spotted O'Brien leaving the building, and, almost as one, the media pack descended on him. A reporter who was standing the wrong way got a TV cord wrapped around his neck and was dragged half-way down the block.

HOFFA, Page 1747

The police huddled afterward to review the three-hour O'Brien interview. They compiled a list of problems:

- On the day Hoffa vanished, O'Brien could not account for his time from about 2:30 until 4 p.m., when he was back at his office. That period was critical in the Hoffa disappearance.

— O'Brien claimed he was at the Southfield Athletic Club at 2 p.m. that day, but no one saw him there.

■ He said he was waiting for a ride to work as usual at 8 a.m. July 31, less than 100 feet from the Red Fox lot where Hoffa's abandoned car sat, but claimed he never noticed it.

■ He claimed he heard of the disappearance on the morning of July 31 and it enraged him. But others said O'Brien was told around 2 p.m. that day and waited about 20 minutes before making some telephone inquiries.

■ He said he was on good terms with both Jimmy Hoffa and son James, but everyone else seemed to know otherwise.

After he left the Teamsters offices, O'Brien called the Hoffa home. Police were eavesdropping, as usual.

"I told them the truth," O'Brien told James Hoffa.

"I want you to take a polygraph," Hoffa told him.

"I'll have to talk to my lawyer about that one," O'Brien said.

Young Hoffa hung up on him.

By the end of the day, as O'Brien headed back to Memphis and his bride, the FBI had formulated its first working theory of the case:

Hoffa met Anthony Giacalone's brother, Vito (Billy Jack) Giacalone, at the Red Fox, and they drove toward the Southfield Athletic Club. But "a hit man was waiting at a select spot and either shot or strangled Hoffa."

But the Giacalones weren't volunteering anything. Grand jury subpoenas produced nothing but a string of nonanswers.

And authorities still had no one credible who saw Hoffa leave the Red Fox lot — until the call from a man who would be known only by one of the code numbers the FBI assigns informants: DE 7223-PCI.

The secret witness told FBI agents he saw Jimmy Hoffa get into a black Lincoln with two men.

Under questioning by agents, he refined it to a maroon car, and insisted it was driven by Chuckie O'Brien. The color maroon was key. Few people knew that O'Brien had told investigators about borrowing Joey Giacalone's new maroon Mercury the day Hoffa vanished. The Mercury also had the long, boxy look of a Lincoln.

The informant was given a lie detector test.

The results were teletyped immediately to FBI Director Clarence Kelly:

"It was concluded that DE 7223-PCI was not truthful."

But the witness was insistent, signing a sworn statement. Another test was given, this time concluding: "Possible deception."

See HOFFA, Page 6A

Agents took DE 7223-PCI back to the Red Fox lot, and he pointed out the wrong spot when asked where Hoffa's car had been that day.

But at least one agent who was on the case said the informant remained "a very believable guy."

"He came up with the story on the maroon car, and we thought it was a pretty secret piece of information. We didn't realize that it had appeared in a newspaper article somewhere, very obliquely. . . . We had every reason to believe him. So we did."

The FBI set up a meeting for the informant with Robert Ozer, head of the federal strike force in Detroit working on a grand jury investigation of Hoffa.

DE 7223-PCI told his story yet again.

"This is almost too good to be true," an agent said.

Then DE 7223-PCI added a postscript.

"I'm just trying to help you guys out," he said. "God told me to do this."

The man said his knowledge of Hoffa's abduction had come in a vision sent by God.

Investigators were crushed.

"We felt like idiots," said one FBI agent. "Oh, God, that was a downer."

Nothing to gain'

New Jersey state police, meanwhile, had tracked Anthony Provenzano down at the Franklin Diner on Route 17 in Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., where Sgt. Jim Sweeney of the intelligence bureau conducted an interview.

Hoffa had told several people that he expected Tony Pro to be with Anthony Giacalone at the July 30th meeting.

Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters official and ex-convict with reputed underworld ties, told Sweeney he was a close friend of both Jimmy Hoffa and Frank Fitzsimmons and would have "nothing to gain" by Hoffa's disappearance.

Provenzano said he and Hoffa were inseparable in prison, even ate most of their meals together, but had not seen each other since their release.

"He's my type of man," Provenzano said. "Aggressive and hard working."

Provenzano speculated that the only people who stood to benefit from Hoffa's death were his family, who would get insurance money, and black Teamsters, who could make a play for union power with Hoffa out of the way.

On the afternoon of the supposed meeting, Provenzano said he was playing cards at his New Jersey union hall with his brother Salvatore and a pal, Stephen Andretta.

Back in Detroit, authorities obtained a search warrant for Joey Giacalone's 1975 maroon Mercury Brougham, the car O'Brien had bor-

from Giacalone's St. Clair Shores condominium.

Preliminary tests showed no sign of human blood on the seats or in the trunk of the car. But numerous hair samples and unknown microscopic particles were taken, as well as several fingerprints.

In the trunk, agents found a Remington Wingmaster model 870 .12-gauge pump shotgun, serial number T056008V. The gun had a black pistol-type grip, an extra-long tube with room for additional shells, and a metal folding stock on which was stamped "For Law Enforcement Only."

Joey Giacalone readily admitted the shotgun belonged to him. Agents confirmed that he bought it on March 17, 1975, at Peter's Gun Shop in Roseville. Agents also found an empty black pistol holster under the front passenger seat. In the glove box were numerous rounds of .38-caliber bullets, several .22-caliber Magnum rounds, a handkerchief and a shirt.

In all, agents collected enough evidence to fill two cartons — each measuring three feet by three feet by three inches — for shipment to FBI labs.

Later, FBI technicians would go over every speck, nit, thread or hair found inside the car. One "single, three-inch brown head hair" from the car had "characteristics similar" to Hoffa's hair, and may have had blood on it.

Three trained tracking dogs, two of them brought in from Philadelphia, picked up Hoffa's scent in the backseat of the Mercury.

But none of it added up to a case against anyone, and the investigation began taking some strange turns as tips continued to pour in.

On Aug. 11, police and FBI agents searched a 100-acre gravel pit owned by Jimmy Hoffa's brother William near Highland on the Oakland-Livingston county border. Later, infrared photos of the pit were taken from a military plane, but there was no sign of a body or disturbed earth to mark a grave.

On Aug. 12, James Hoffa received a ransom letter demanding \$1 million in small bills,

"If law is around, good-bye James Riddle Hoffa," the note read. "We send back nuts, not ears. He is already wounded. We had to cut him up a bit." The note, signed Queen Liz, directed Hoffa to deliver the money to the 711 Bar on Michigan in downtown Detroit at 2 p.m. on Aug. 19.

He didn't go. No one else showed up, either, except police.

The FBI decided it was time to talk again with O'Brien, but an agent let slip on Aug. 17 that no one seemed to know where he was.

HOFFA, Page 174

Headlines and TV news screamed for a day that a key witness in the Hoffa case had vanished. O'Brien's son saw

an NBC news account in West Memphis, Ark., and turned to his father.

"Dad," he said, "you're missing."

The next day, O'Brien left his wife again to fly into Detroit for what he

expected to be a nice, quiet interview. Instead, the Metro Airport gate area was packed wall to wall with reporters and photographers, yelling questions and fighting for position.

"It was insane," O'Brien said. "The FBI went and leaked this, and you wouldn't believe it there. It was insane."

This session was conducted in a police office at the airport, and agents tried to pin Chuckie down about the car, the fish, the club and just when he had gone where.

Discrepancies kept cropping up.

O'Brien now said he had spoke to Anthony Giacalone the night before Hoffa vanished, and Uncle Tony said he was going spend the whole afternoon of July 30th at the Southfield Athletic Club.

O'Brien added details about his own brief meeting that day with Giacalone, saying Uncle Tony had given him two \$100 bills as graduation presents for O'Brien's children.

And O'Brien said he left the club at 3:15 p.m. — later than he'd claimed before.

O'Brien finally gave the agents a timetable, ticking off what he had done that day and when. It did not at all match the story he had just told.

But above all, O'Brien was adamant that Hoffa was not in the maroon Mercury that day.

"Never," he insists to this day. "If he was in there, you might just as well put Hitler in there, too. No way was he in there."

"I loved the Old Man," O'Brien said, and he left town again.

A few days later, FBI agents tried to duplicate Chuckie's movements of July 30. No matter how many times they ran through his timetable, they always came up with 60-90 minutes of extra time.

In late August, the FBI laid out a startling scenario to get a search warrant for Central Sanitation Services, an industrial waste disposal firm in Hamtramck owned in part by Raffael (Jimmy Q) Quasarano.

In a sealed affidavit filed to get the warrant, agents said they had been told by two FBI informants that Hoffa's body was "totally destroyed" by the disposal company's commercial size shredders, compactors and incinerators. One said 10 other gangland victims had gone the same way.

According to the affidavit, Teamster President Fitzsimmons had made an unusual, solitary trip to Detroit the

weekend before Hoffa disappeared and secretly met with Quasarano at Largo's Inn on West McNichols.

The affidavit noted that rather than using any of the luxury autos available from the union in Detroit, Fitzsimmons got around during his visit in a car borrowed from Ron Roxburgh, Central Sanitation's president.

Fitzsimmons acknowledged the Detroit visit to the FBI, but denied meeting with Quasarano and Vitale, the affidavit said.

The bureau got its warrant and the FBI took trained dogs into the plant to hunt for any scent of Hoffa. Nothing was found.

Central Sanitation was destroyed by fire in 1978. Part of its property is now occupied by the new Wayne County Jail in Hamtramck.

Everybody searches a field

On Sept. 26, 1975, some reporters covering the Hoffa disappearance were told about a tremendous break coming the next day — so secret even the FBI didn't know.

Seems a one-time FBI informant from California with loose Teamsters connections had told U.S. Labor Department investigators and U.S. Sen. Henry (Scoop) Jackson, D-Wash., that Hoffa's body was buried in a field in Waterford Township. Jackson decided to bypass the FBI with his information, relaying it instead to Michigan Gov. William Milliken, the state police and Attorney General Frank Kelley. Plans were made to search the field on Sept. 27, a Saturday.

See HOFFA, Page 7A

HOFFA, from Page 6A

day, and, of course, word leaked out, but nobody knew how far.

Ralph Orr, Free Press labor writer at the time, recalled that the newspaper got one of the leaks and thought it had the story to itself. Editors convened a midnight meeting in the newsroom to parcel out assignments for what surely would be the scoop of the century.

Shortly before dawn, Free Press reporters reached the rendezvous point where state police detectives had gathered. So did dozens of other reporters and camera crews — enough to form a strange caravan en route to the field, complete with backhoes.

Quarles, the Bloomfield detective, made sure he was clad for the expedition from head to toe, lest poison ivy be lurking.

Attorney General Kelley insisted on being present for the search and Michigan State Police Detective Sgt. Joseph Koenig picked him up at Oakland Pontiac Airport. Kelley arrived at 5 a.m. wearing tennis clothes and carrying a racket.

Someone from the state police decided to call Assistant Oakland County Prosecutor Richard Thompson, since if anything was found, the local office would probably handle criminal charges. Thompson called his boss, L. Brooks Patterson, to let him know Frank Kelley was working his turf.

"Although we weren't officially invited," Thompson said, "we decided to go. . . . When we got there, it was like a big circus. This huge field was cordoned off, helicopters from the TV stations were flying all over, people were selling hot dogs and popcorn along the side of the road."

The circus went on for two days, and private citizens kept looking afterward, especially with Hoffa's family posting a \$200,000 reward for information.

But the field never yielded anything except dirt.

In October, Koenig, and FBI agents Jim Esposito and Bob Garrity took off after another tip: Hoffa's body was at the bottom of a swimming pool behind a Bloomfield Hills mansion near Turtle Lake.

The owner of the mansion couldn't be reached to give police permission to cross his property, so the three investigators borrowed a canoe and paddled across a swamp to the site described by the tipster.

The pool house had been abandoned years before, and the pool inside was empty. The cops poked around for a few minutes, but their hopes sank and they began paddling back.

On the way, their borrowed canoe sprung a leak and sank, too. In their suits, the investigators sloshed their way back to dry land.

The weeks were beginning to pile into months. The investigators plodded on, but they also realized that crimes of violence are usually solved within days — or not at all. And they didn't even have a body yet.

1,000 talks with lawyer

Ralph Picardo, a former Teamster in Anthony Provenzano's New Jersey Local 560, contacted federal agents on Nov. 5 from the East coast prison where he was serving a murder sentence.

Picardo said he had been visited by two of his many mutual friends with Provenzano, brothers Stephen and Thomas Andretta. He said Stephen had indirectly let slip that Tony Pro's outfit was involved in Hoffa's slaying, saying he had remained in New Jersey to provide Provenzano's card-playing alibi.

HOFFA, Page 1749

Based on Picardo's story, the FBI rushed after subpoenas to get the Andrettas and two of Provenzano's other top associates, brothers Gabriel and Salvatore (Sally Bugs) Briguglio, to Detroit for police lineups and grand jury questioning.

Stephen Andretta astounded court officials by leaving the grand jury room 1,000 times to confer with his lawyer, William Bufalino Sr. Bufalino handed out autographed footballs around the courthouse to mark the 1,000th time.

Andretta was finally jailed for contempt when he refused to testify even after being given immunity from prosecution. But he kept silent.

State Police Detective Koenig said he passed the time during a long wait prior to lineups at the Oakland County Jail by playing chess with Thompson, the assistant Oakland prosecutor.

He said he kept one eye on the four suspects from New Jersey, and was drawn repeatedly to the short, squat Salvatore Briguglio.

"You could see that his brain was in turmoil and he was having difficulty coping with it," Koenig said. "We all

agreed he'd be the one to focus on."

But with no hard evidence, they never got much of a chance.

On March 21, 1978, Sally Bugs was shot to death by two hooded gunmen at a restaurant in New York's Little Italy.

There was a flicker of hope about a case against Stephen Andretta in January 1976, when a previously silent witness told Bloomfield Township police he was sure he had seen Andretta at the Red Fox restaurant almost a month to the day before Hoffa vanished from its parking lot.

During his standoff with the grand jury, Andretta said he had never been in Michigan before. The witness said he recognized Andretta from news accounts and was certain Andretta was lying.

A businessman who did not want his name known, the witness said he was parked in an isolated section of the same lot on June 26, 1975, doing some paperwork, when a Lincoln or Cadillac, black over gray, parked in front of him.

The witness said a man who looked like Andretta walked from the car to the restaurant and back. He said the man noticed him in his car and walked over.

"What are you doing?" he asked the businessman.

"Don't I know you?" the businessman replied.

"No, I don't think we ever met," the man said, then glanced at the businessman's paperwork and walked back to his car.

It was intriguing information, but useless unless the businessman was willing to testify before a grand jury. He never did.

Another lead to nowhere.

The most popular solution

Based on information that was good, but not good enough, the FBI eventually refined its theory of the case, as outlined in a January 1976 memo called HOFFEX. It remains the

most agreed-upon scenario of what happened to Jimmy Hoffa:

In the Red Fox lot, Hoffa got into Joey Giacalone's car, driven by Chuckie O'Brien, who had borrowed it earlier to deliver a fish.

Hoffa believed he would be taken to a meeting with Anthony Provenzano and Anthony Giacalone to smooth out problems between Hoffa and Tony Provenzano.

In reality, it was a setup for an assassination carried out by New Jersey Teamsters close to Provenzano — Thomas Andretta and the Briguglio brothers, Gabriel and Salvatore.

The mob wanted to keep Hoffa from getting back in the union and clamping down on the mob's easy access to union pension funds during the presidency of Frank Fitzsimmons.

The killing was probably quick, and the body most likely destroyed not far from the murder site, somewhere in the Detroit area.

Investigators and others involved in the case say the murder probably was authorized at the highest levels of organized crime, which did not foresee all the pressure it would generate on its operations.

The HOFFEX theory was somewhat substantiated by later discoveries: records of telephone calls from Provenzano's Teamsters local to O'Brien's home number several weeks before Hoffa vanished.

The same number was found on a slip of paper at the home of Salvatore Briguglio in Paramus, N.J., when FBI agents arrived to search it the day after he was slain.

"Don't you guys ever quit?" Briguglio's son asked when the family's mourning was disrupted by the FBI search.

Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien has his own theory about Hoffa: The government killed him as an excuse to delve into the powerful Teamsters and left Chuckie to be the fall guy.

"It got so crazy," said O'Brien, who spent 10 months in prison in 1979 for a labor law violation and falsifying a loan application. "People saying they saw this and people saying they saw that. It just made me crazy."

"There's no way there was a meeting with Tony Giacalone or Tony Provenzano, and I don't care what anybody says. It just never happened that way. ... I'd have to be an insane maniac to use Joey's car and take Mr. Hoffa."

Although many of the key figures have died or gone to prison for various crimes, the FBI still regards the Hoffa case as open. The bureau used the case as a springboard for a series of other investigations that struck deep into organized crime and led to government control of the Teamsters.

"Hoffa was never found, but you have to balance the fact that the massive resources devoted to it paid off in the end," said Koenig, the top state police member of the Hoffa investigative team. "There were a number of cases ... where there were convictions and people put in jail, putting really kind of a damper on mob activity in the Detroit area for many years."

That doesn't make James Hoffa feel much better about his father's fate.

"What amazes me with all the informants the FBI has, all the supposedly bad guys who have turned over over the years, that they've never been able to come up with anyone who has said, 'Oh, by the way, let me tell you about Mr. Hoffa,'" he said.

"And now after 17 years, I really don't think they're going to solve it. It makes me real sad that's not going to happen."

THE BODY

IT PROBABLY NEVER LEFT

The lack of hard evidence has left room for theories to abound about what really happened to Jimmy Hoffa.

Even among investigators, there is little agreement on details of Hoffa's death and the disposition of his body.

Hoffa was declared legally dead on Dec. 9, 1982, seven years and five months after he vanished.

The prevailing law enforcement theory is that Hoffa got into a car with someone he trusted, then was killed. Some investigators believe he was killed in the car, others that he was taken to a nearby location and killed.

Knowing Hoffa's fearless nature and strength — he once rushed and overpowered a man who pulled a gun in a Tennessee courtroom — some investigators think he must have been rendered quickly unconscious in the car, possibly with chloroform.

The killers probably disposed of Hoffa's body right away, in the Detroit area. There was no need to haul it — as some informants have claimed — to a landfill or Giants Stadium in New Jersey, or out to the middle of Lake Michigan.

He's also been said to be buried at the end of dirt road in the Arctic Circle and under or in just about every freeway, bridge or major building erected in southeast Michigan since 1975.

The FBI focused on Central Sanitation Services in Hamtramck. Informants said the giant shredders, compactors and incinerators there were used on 10 organized crime victims.

A search with scent dogs was fruitless. The plant burned in 1978; the site is home to the new Wayne County Jail.

By Joe Swickard

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

THE HOFFA FILES

If there's nothing to hide, FBI files should go public

Seventeen years after Jimmy Hoffa disappeared from a Bloomfield Township parking lot, the case remains a mystery — though less of one with the publication of some dramatic articles by Free Press reporters Jack Kresnak and Joe Swickard. Coming just before the release of a major film about Hoffa, the stories are perhaps the best look yet into the likely murder of the former Teamsters leader.

Despite their failure to make a case they can take to court, authorities did not drill a dry investigatory hole. Using leads they generated in the probe, they found side doors into the cruel chambers and coffers of organized crime. Several mobsters have gone to prison. Law-enforcement officials also have made great strides in cleaning up the Teamsters union, possibly the most corrupt labor organization in American history — corruption that at one stage led Hoffa himself to prison.

The authorities say they know who killed Hoffa, and why. But they also say they almost certainly can't make a case that would stick in court. So why is the govern-

ment insisting that it can't open up the FBI's investigation files? Because, the government says, that might jeopardize a prospective prosecution.

To use a word Hoffa would have found much too mild to describe the government's stance: baloney.

The government is not going to prosecute anyone for the Hoffa killing. That's unfortunate, but, in a criminal justice system designed to allow some guilty people to go free so that innocent people won't go to jail, it's also reality.

The Hoffa family wants to see the thousands of documents and other materials. So does the Free Press. Both have filed Freedom of Information lawsuits that are pending.

If authorities want to shield the identities of confidential informants, they can easily do so. "We're ready to deal with whatever's in there," Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer, told the Free Press.

She's right. It's long past time for the FBI to cough up the files. If the officials keep refusing, the courts should force them to.

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 p. 16A
 Title: EDITORIAL
 THE HOFFA FILES
 Character:
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 Classification:
 Submitting Office: DETROIT

Indexing:

281A-DE-67821-867

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SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 22 1992	
FBI - DETROIT	

[Handwritten signature]

HOFFA, Page 1752

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (80-1334)

Date 12/17/92

From : SA [REDACTED]
MEDIA COORDINATOR

Subject: MEDIA APPEARANCE BY
DETROIT PERSONNEL

b7C

For information, MIKE WENDLAND, Investigative Reporter, assigned to WDIV (TV-4), Detroit, interviewed SAC HAL N. HELTERHOFF and SSA [REDACTED] (C-8) on 12/1/92, in the FBI office in Detroit.

The interview was concerned with the FBI investigation captioned, "HOFFEX." The interview was conducted by WENDLAND in preparation for the documentary he is producing, concerned with the disappearance of JIMMY HOFFA.

The interview was not videotaped.

1 - 80-1301
1 - 281-DE-67821

HWG/cm
(2) sm

281-DE-67821-868

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FBI - DETROIT	

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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 1/8/93

TO : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (281A-DE-67821)
 (ATTN: SA ██████████ OC SQUAD)

FROM : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (P) (C-8)
 (formerly 183A-1155)

SUBJECT : HOFFEX;
 OO: DETROIT

b7C

Re New York teletype to Director, dated 9/18/92; New Orleans teletype to Director, dated 10/19/92; and telcal between SA ██████████ New Orleans and SA ██████████ Detroit, on 1/3/92.

Enclosed for New Orleans is a VCR tape of "A Current Affair" program which aired on Friday, 7/24/92, on national television.

As per the aforementioned telcal, the enclosed VCR tape contains an interview of a 70 year old ex-con, who was not identified, admitting to be involved in the disappearance of JIMMY HOFFA. Investigation has tentatively identified the individual as JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE. Further investigation by New Orleans located a JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE as per New Orleans teletype dated 10/19/92.

LEADS:NEW ORLEANS

2 - New Orleans (Enc. 1)

(1) - Detroit

TMC:rmv

(3)

rmv

281A-DE-67821-869

SEARCHED

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Approved: _____

Transmitted

(Number) (Time)

Per

HOFFA Page 1754

281A-DE-67821

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

1. Obtain a current photographs of FRANCE via investigative channels, i.e. DMV, etc.
2. New Orleans personnel familiar with FRANCE review VCR tape and determine if the subject interviewed and FRANCE is one and the same.
3. If the individual on the tape is FRANCE, ascertain his current address, telephone number, and employment to prepare for an interview.

2*

HOFFA, Page 1755

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8) (P) Date 1/14/93

From : *for* SA [REDACTED]

Subject: HOFFEX

b7c

Re [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has surfaced in [REDACTED] investigation (281A-DE-58586) making contact with [REDACTED]. Attached are the relevant documents regarding [REDACTED] in captioned investigation.

① - 281A-DE-67821 (Attachments)

1 - 281A-DE-58586

TMC:brs

(2) b7c

281A-DE-67821- 870

SEARCHED	<i>for</i>	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	<i>for</i>	FILED <i>for</i>
JAN 15 1993		
FBI - DETROIT		

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription

8/15/75

[REDACTED] was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents as well as the nature of the interview, after which he furnished the following information:

[REDACTED] stated that on July 31, 1975 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED] advised that he did not see [REDACTED] on Friday, August 1, 1975.

[REDACTED] refused to furnish any additional information:

[REDACTED] further refused to furnish any background information regarding himself; however, the following physical description was obtained from personal observation:

Race
Sex
Height
Weight
Hair
Build
Eyes
Other
characteristics

Interviewed on 8/13/75

Detroit

SA by [REDACTED]

and /JPM:cel

8/14/75

Date dictated

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

HOFFA, Page 1757

HOFFEX
ALPHA LISTING
VOL 26 of 30
11-17-80

COPY 2

DE-IN 8/11/75 THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED AT [REDACTED] DP-08137B
TYP-390
AGT-JEM/CMB

[REDACTED] IS COULD NOT
RECALL ACTIVITIES OF [REDACTED] FOR 7/29-31/75 BUT
[REDACTED] FOR THIS PERIOD. CONTINUED.
SEE SER G-559-1

DE-MM 9/16/75 [REDACTED] ADV THAT SOME INFO HAD COME INTO HER POSSESSION DP-01587
TYP-10 INDICATING SOME CONSTRUCTION WORK WAS PERFORMED IN THE CITY OF
AGT-RTB SFLO, MI, ON 7-30-75. SHE STATED SHE CONTACTED THE CONSTRUCTION
CO WHOSE EQUIPMENT WAS UTILIZED & LEARNED NO WORK HAD BEEN
SCHEDULED. [REDACTED] ADV SHE HAD ADDITIONAL INFO CONCERNING THIS
MATTER BUT REFUSED TO FURNISH IT.
SEE SER MAIN-1422-1

DE-MM 8/30/75 [REDACTED] SFLO PD ADV HIS DEPT REC'D A CALL FROM [REDACTED] DP-01888A
TYP-381,17 CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION IN SFLO DURING EARLY AM HRS OF
AGT-EJB 7-30-75. BFTPQ ADV HIS DEPT REC'D SAME REPORT &
HIS OFFICERS HAD GONE OVER AREA CAREFULLY.
SEE SER MAIN-1622-1

b7C
b7D
DE-302 9/15/75 [REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY ADV THAT ROBT PARR WHO IS [REDACTED] DP-08296D
TYP-390 TOLD HIM [REDACTED] LEFT ON VACATION TO [REDACTED]
AGT-VAH AVOID FGU SUBPOENA.
[REDACTED] ADV THAT [REDACTED] ARE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] & TAKING LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY FROM HIM.
SEE SER G-725-1

DE-IN 8/4/75 SEVENTY-SIX PLACES OF BUSINESS AND PERSONS WERE CONTACTED AT DP-07453H
TYP-132 BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP, MI ON 8/4/75 W/NEGATIVE RESULTS RE
AGT-GT/JHC DISAPPEARANCE OF JRH ON 7/30/75.
SEE SER G-49-1

DE-302 8/13/75 [REDACTED] S1AD ON 7/31/75 DP-07672
TYP-31 THESE TIMES. [REDACTED] DIDNT
AGT-UJM/RFB SEE [REDACTED] ON 8/1/75. [REDACTED] REFUSED TO GIVE ANY FURTHER
INFO.
SEE SER G-330-1

DE-MM 8/18/75 TOLL RECORDS REQUESTED FOR NOS OF [REDACTED] b7C
TYP-320,31
ACT-JSH

SEE SER MAIN-687-2

DE-IN 10/ 3/75 LIST OF INDIVIDUALS, COMPANIES & TELEPHONE NOS RECORDS OF WHICH DP-08442F
TYP-390 WERE SUBPOENAED FROM MBTC.
ACT-JSH SEE SER G-801-1

DE-MM 1/ 4/77 ADV SHE HEARD [REDACTED] DP-12180
TYP-361 DISCUSS
AGT-PGK JRH'S DISAPPEARANCE & HE HAD BEEN DISPOSED OF IN INCINERATOR OF [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] INTVO 12/14/77 &
DENIED KNOWLEDGE RE DISAPPEARANCE & STATED [REDACTED]

SEE SER MAIN-4789-1

DE-AO 11/ 8/77 ADV THAT [REDACTED] TOLD HER JRH'S DP-11972
TYP-361,150,120 BODY WAS INCINERATED AT THE RALEIGH HOUSE. [REDACTED] WENT
AGT-WFX ALONG THE DAY HE WAS ABDUCTED. [REDACTED] COULDN'T STOP THE MURDER.
FAVOR W/THE TEAMSTERS. [REDACTED] WENT ALONG W/THE ORDEAL TO GAIN
INFO FROM [REDACTED] TOLD [REDACTED] THAT SHE GOT THIS
SEE SER MAIN-4660-1

DE-302 12/ 1/77 IS [REDACTED] DP-12298
TYP-361,10 IS MARRIED TO [REDACTED] ADV THAT [REDACTED] HAS MANY
AGT-PGK/JEM TIMES DISCUSSED TEAMSTER ACTIVITIES & ON ONE OCCASION RELATED
INFO WHICH SHE INDICATED CAME FROM [REDACTED] RE
DISAPPEARANCE OF JRH IN THAT 2 HIT MEN [REDACTED] AS BAIT GOT
JRH INTO CAR, KILLED JRH & DISPOSED OF BODY IN INCINERATOR AT
SEE SER G-2180-1

DE-1A 12/15/77 INVEST NOTES RE [REDACTED] DP-10801
TYP-250,120,361 SEE SER A-522-1
AGT-PGK

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (P) (C-8) Date 1/20/93

From : SA [REDACTED]

Subject: HOFFEX
OC/DI - LCN - DETROIT FAMILY
(OO: DETROIT)

Re Polygraph Examinations of JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE and [REDACTED]

JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE

b7C The JOHN DOE who appeared on the "A Current Affair" program on Friday, July 23, 1992, admitting to be involved in the disappearance of JIMMY HOFFA has been tentatively identified as JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE. During the program, it was reported the JOHN DOE had passed a polygraph examination as to admitting his involvement. Subsequently, FBI New York obtained the polygraph results from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In turn, New York forwarded the relevant graphs, questions and notes prepared from the polygraph test of JOHN DOE to the Laboratory Division, Polygraph Unit. Subsequently, the Polygraph Unit reported the findings as follows.

b7C b7D FBIHQ Polygraph Unit Quality Control Supervisor has conducted a review of the graphs, questions and notes of [REDACTED] concerning the polygraph test of JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE on 6/23/92.

b7C/b7D

b7E A. [REDACTED]

② - 281A-DE-58586
b7C 1 - Polygraph Examiner
1 - Media Coordinator
TMC:prs
(4) [REDACTED]

281A-DC-67821-871

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JAN 20 1993	
FBI - DETROIT	

281A-DE-67821

[REDACTED]
B.
b7E
[REDACTED]
C.
[REDACTED]

It is the findings of the Bureau Polygraph Unit that there were indications of deception to the aforementioned relevant questions A through C. To fully resolve this issue it is recommended that an FBI polygraph examiner conduct a re-examination of JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE.

b7C Leads had been disseminated throughout the country in an effort to positively identify the JOHN DOE on the program who has been tentatively identified as FRANCE. New Orleans has located a JOSEPH KENNETH FRANCE. Subsequently, a VCR copy of the mentioned program has been forwarded to New Orleans in an attempt to positively identify the individual. When the individual is positively identified, FBI Detroit will coordinate with the respective office along with the HQ Polygraph Unit and the OC-DB Section at HQ to arrange for an interview of the subject as well as polygraph him.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7A
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D

The reporting Agent relayed this information to the OC-DB Section and the Polygraph Unit. Additionally, Detroit Federal Expressed a VCR copy of [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] Section Chief, OC-DB.

[REDACTED] b7A
It was then discussed as to which way to proceed with the [REDACTED] matter. [REDACTED] Unit Chief of the Polygraph Unit, reported Bureau policy (MIOG, Part II, Section 13-22 ...) states only Bureau polygraph examiners are to be used in FBI cases. He further stated he did not feel it would be

b7C b7D

advantageous for the Bureau to obtain [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] regarding the [REDACTED] examination for nothing could be achieved via the review [REDACTED]

b7C

Additionally, the case Agent contacted the OC-DB, SSA [REDACTED] and relayed [REDACTED] information to [REDACTED] advised he would provide SSA [REDACTED], the HQ Supervisor overseeing the HOFFEX investigation, with the information. In turn, SSA [REDACTED] would advise SSA [REDACTED] or SA [REDACTED] of HQ OC-DB recommendation as to how to proceed with [REDACTED]. Following this, Detroit will make a decision on the [REDACTED]

SSA [REDACTED] will coordinate with Media Coordinator SA [REDACTED] as to the appropriate press releases concerning the two aforementioned topics.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Detroit Free Press

Date: 12/19/92
Edition:

Title: HOFFEX

Character: 281A-DE-67821
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Detroit

Indexing:

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

HOFFA
THE SECRET FILES**James Riddle Hoffa**

Rose from Detroit Local 299 to lead the Teamsters from 1957-67, when he entered federal prison for conspiracy, fraud and jury tampering.

Paroled in 1971, Hoffa was bent on regaining Teamsters office when he vanished July 30, 1975.

THE CAST**Anthony (Tony Pro)
Provenzano**

Newark, N.J., area Teamsters boss identified by federal authorities as a lieutenant of organized crime. Convicted labor racketeer who spent time with Hoffa at the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa.

**Louis (the Pope) Linteau**

Former president of a Pontiac Teamsters local and confidant of Hoffa's. Hoffa stopped to visit him en route to a meeting the day he vanished. Linteau discovered Hoffa's abandoned car.

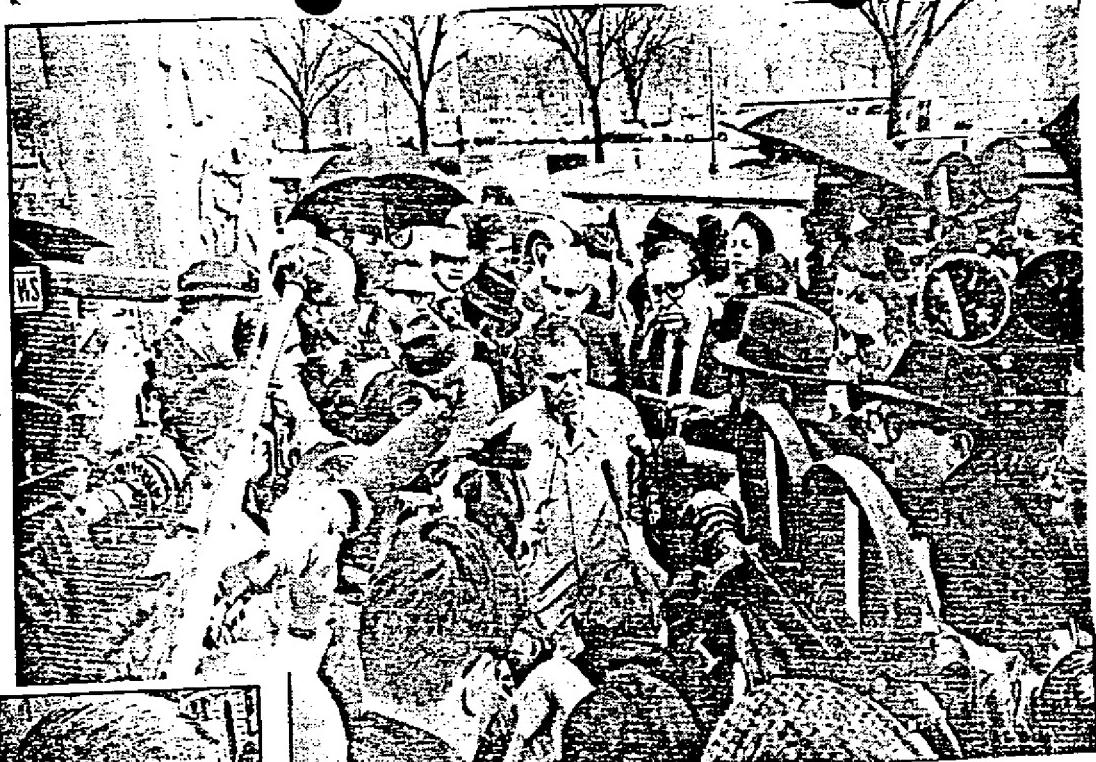
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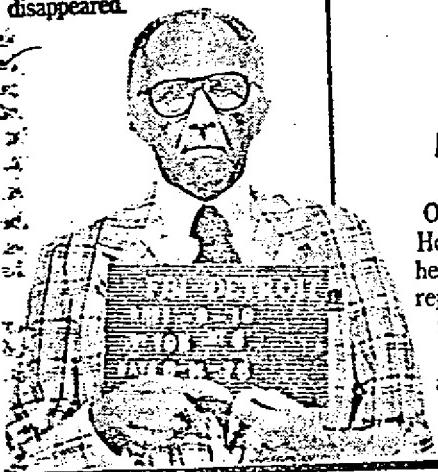
FBI/DOJ

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Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien

Teamsters organizer in Detroit and longtime aide to Hoffa, whom he sometimes called Dad. Had a falling out with Hoffa and was preparing to take a union post in Florida when Hoffa disappeared.



Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone

On the day he vanished, Hoffa told several people he was going to meet this reputed Detroit mob boss. Giacalone was a visible presence most of the afternoon in Southfield.

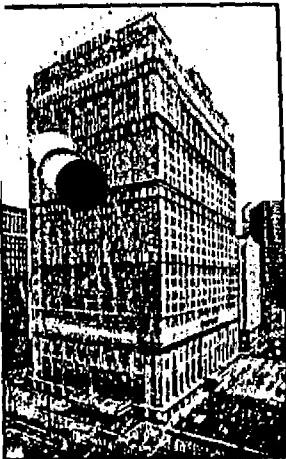


Above: Jimmy Hoffa talks to reporters in Washington on March 7, 1967, before beginning a prison sentence for jury tampering. Left: Hoffa with granddaughter Barbara Jo and daughter Barbara Crancer in 1966.



In 1971, Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons, left, tried to get the imprisoned Jimmy Hoffa a presidential pardon.

DECEMBER 19, 1992 •



1

The day before he disappeared, Jimmy Hoffa had lunch with Detroit Mayor Coleman Young at the Book Cadillac Hotel. They discussed a possible bailout of the downtown hotel using Teamsters pension money.

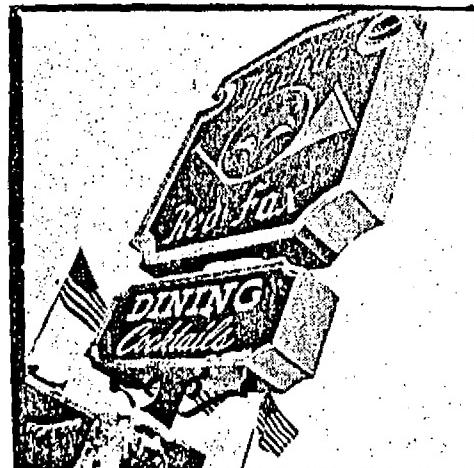
Vito Giacalone



2

Brothers Anthony and Vito Giacalone, identified by authorities as leaders of organized crime in Detroit, visited Hoffa only once at his northern Oakland County home, 18 days before the labor leader disappeared.

CHAIN OF EVENTS

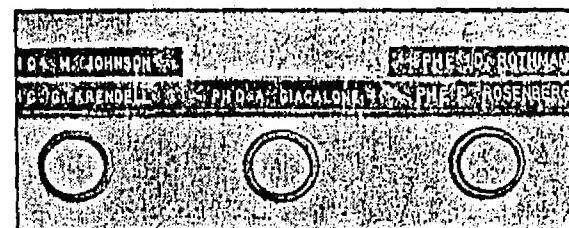


3

Teamsters official Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien, a longtime Hoffa aide, waited for his ride to work every day at the shopping center that includes the Machus Red Fox restaurant, where Hoffa was last seen.

4

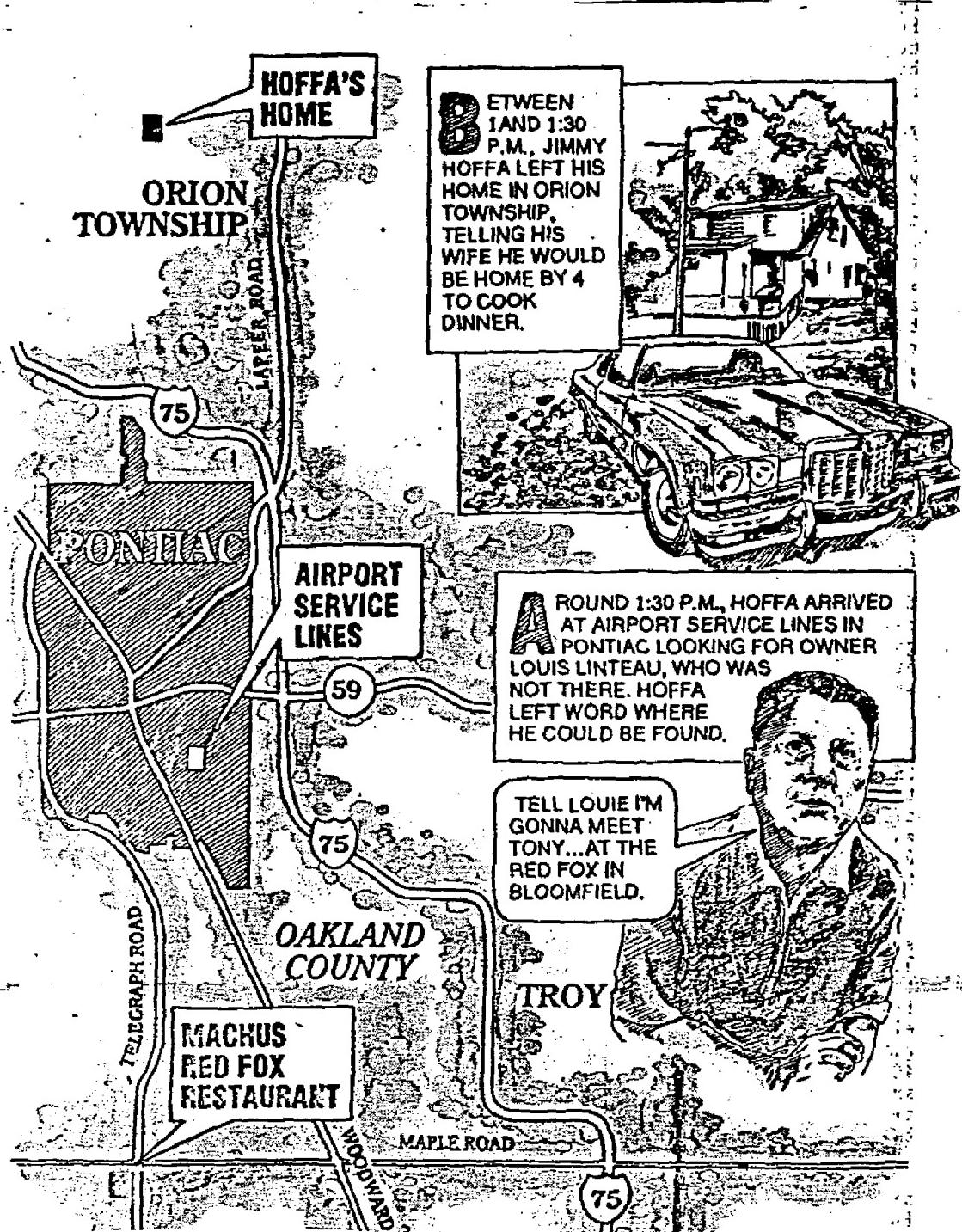
The day Hoffa vanished, Anthony Giacalone spent much of the afternoon at the Southfield Athletic Club, where people took note that he was unusually outgoing. He also spent an hour in the office of a Southfield lawyer.



5

A local real estate broker, emerging from a long lunch at the Red Fox, encountered a sweaty Hoffa waiting alone in the parking lot. They shook hands and the broker said he could never forget Hoffa's "steel bar" grip.

Hoffa told several people that Anthony Giacalone was among the people he was going to meet on the day he vanished, but Giacalone denied he had any such meeting scheduled.





MOSES HARRIS/Detroit Free Press



Free Press file photos

Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa, left center, is greeted by Anthony Provenzano, right center, and other Teamsters in Newark, N.J., in 1959.

HOFFA

THE SECRET FILES

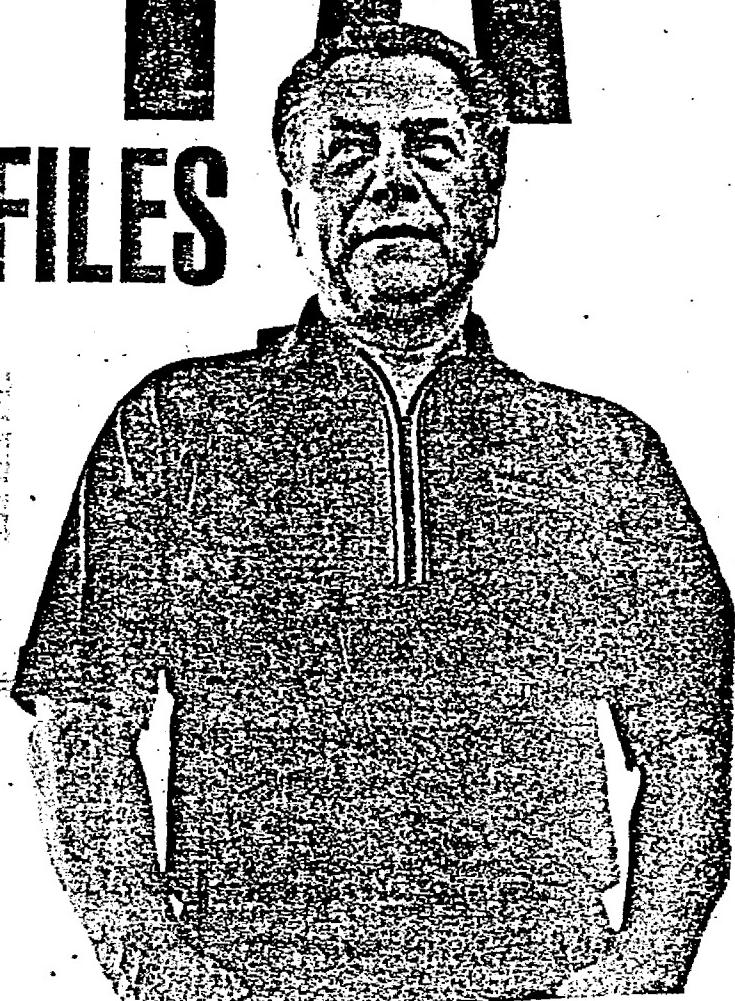
The mystery changed lives, families and the American labor movement forever.

Jimmy Hoffa is the most famous missing person in America, the stuff of legend, mystery and tragedy.

Authorities are convinced they know what happened to the dynamic labor leader, who was last seen alive on July 30, 1975, in a restaurant parking lot in Bloomfield Township.

This is the story of how those conclusions were reached — as detailed in previously secret law enforcement files obtained by the Free Press, other police records examined for the first time and interviews with many of the people involved. The source material includes the daily updates from Detroit agents to FBI headquarters, transcripts of tapped phone calls, informants' reports and interviews with suspects.

Interest in Hoffa has been rekindled by a biographical movie due out at Christmas. But neither the movie nor the many books about Hoffa afford a full picture of the first days of the mystery, a larger-than-life story of Teamsters, mobsters, secret meetings, frustrating searches and trails to nowhere.



HOFFA, Page 1770

Unheeded warning: You don't know who you're bucking'

*Copyright 1992, Detroit Free Press
BY JACK KRESNAK
AND JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writers

Over lunch in the presidential suite at the tattered Book Cadillac Hotel in downtown Detroit, Coleman Young was talking deal and Jimmy Hoffa was listening.

Two tough guys from the streets of Detroit, they spoke the same language. They shared the bond of having risen against the odds and the establishment to positions of enormous power. Along the way, both had made plenty of friends and some serious enemies, but neither backed away from a battle.

"The mayor always enjoyed people with a wide life experience," said Malcolm Dade, then a mayoral aide, who joined Young and Hoffa for the meeting on July 29, 1975. "He wouldn't have much to say to the queen of England, but Jimmy Hoffa certainly had experience."

Now, the mayor was asking the exiled former president of the Teamsters whether it was possible to swing a loan from the union's pension funds to keep the Book in business. Though his parole banned him from union activities, Hoffa still had clout with some Teamsters people.

Dade recalled that the short, thickset Hoffa projected his usual self-confidence during the meeting and was attentive to the mayor's proposal, but noncommittal.

Hoffa had left a much different impression just before the meeting in a chance encounter with Ricardo Lubienski, at the time a Detroit Common Pleas Court judge.

Searching for a cigarette machine prior to a judges conference, Lubienski was startled to recognize one of the few other people in the Book's lobby.



Michigan Department of State Police		ORIGINAL COMPLAINT REPORT	
FDL - Division of State Police		CITY OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
DCU - INTELLIGENCE DIVISION		CITY OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
Captain JAMES KELLER, Bloomfield Twp. Police Dept.		Date Received 7-14-75	
Address: 1614 Ray Court, Lake Orion, Michigan		File Number 5-15-21	
Reported by D/LT. DELBERT CODY		Date Investigated 7-31-75	
Phone Number 12:10 P.M.		Time Received MT 4-3-555	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN <input type="checkbox"/> CLOSED BY ARREST <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE REQUESTED		<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING PERSON	
<p><i>Captain JAMES KELLER of the Bloomfield Township Police Department reports JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA missing and requests assistance on their investigation.</i></p>			
<p>MISSING: JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA, address 1614 Ray Court, Lake Orion, Michigan. Mr. HOFFA was born in Brazil, Indiana, on 2-14-13. He is 5-5½, 180, black hair, blue-gray eyes.</p>			
<p>TIME & DATE LAST SEEN: The victim was last heard from at approximately 3:30 P.M. on 7-30-75. He was last seen at an unconfirmed time of 2:30 P.M. in front of the MACHUS RED FOX RESTAURANT, address 676 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Township, Michigan. The below named witnesses advised they talked to Mr. HOFFA and that they recognized him from prior contacts. Mr. HOFFA appeared to the witnesses as though he were waiting for someone to pick him up.</p>			



TONY SPINA/Detroit Free Press

"My God, it's Jimmy Hoffa," Lubienski thought, remarking to himself that this supposed dynamo of a man appeared "small, lonely and vulnerable."

The judge and Hoffa shook hands and exchanged a few words; Lubienski reminded Hoffa that the Teamsters had helped his campaign for judge.

Nice guy, Lubienski thought as they parted.

Mentally reconstructing that brief meeting countless times, Lubienski keeps coming back to the eerie image of Hoffa looking isolated in the lobby.

Certainly, James Riddle Hoffa had a lot on his mind that was more important to him than saving the Book. At 62, he was 3½ years out of

See HOFFA, Page 12A

Despite warning, Hoffa was set on regaining power

HOFFA, from Page 1A

prison and determined — with his usual bulldog intensity — to win court clearance for a bid to reclaim the Teamsters presidency.

Toward that end, Hoffa had a crucial meeting on tap for tomorrow, out in Bloomfield Township.

"Pete, you like to breathe, don't you?" Hoffa recently had asked Peter Karagozian, an old union pal. "That's how bad I want to get back in."

Hoffa said he had some scores to settle in the union. Karagozian advised him to get a bodyguard, warning, "You don't know who you're bucking."

Hoffa shrugged it off: "They haven't got the guts."

About 250 miles away, Detroit labor lawyer James Philip Hoffa, 34-year-old son of the union legend, was enjoying a vacation with his wife and two boys at a cottage on the banks of Boardman River, south of Traverse City. The finicky northern Michigan weather had been good. He was relaxed.

In St. Louis, Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer, also a labor lawyer, was in the middle of one of the most hectic summers she could remember. On top of a crushing work schedule, Crancer's husband, Robert, a steel company executive, was in the hospital, recovering from surgery after a serious car crash. There also were back-to-school things to do for the couple's 12-year-old daughter.

What else is going to come up, Crancer wondered.

On July 30, 1975, Jimmy Hoffa awoke as usual at 6:30 a.m. at his home on Square Lake, a small lake off M-24 between Pontiac and Holly.

Once a summer-only residence in northern Oakland County's cottage country, the place had been refurbished and insulated by Hoffa for year-round living.

At 7:45 a.m., he took a call from the president of a New York City Teamsters local. Although technically no longer a Teamster, Hoffa kept up with union matters and was in regular contact with local leaders.

It was important to keep his network alive for the triumphant return he envisioned. A meeting that afternoon would help clear the way.

Hoffa told his wife, Josephine, he would be gone for a while in the afternoon, but expected to be home by 4 p.m. and would grill steaks for their dinner. After 39 years of marriage, she knew he would not be late.

The meeting, to which Hoffa finally had agreed after several broken dates, was to be a sit-down with Anthony Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters boss known to friends as Tony Pro —

and known to federal investigators as an associate of the Mafia.

Hoffa and Provenzano had been feuding since they did time together at the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa. — Hoffa for fraud, conspiracy and jury tampering, Tony Pro for racketeering and extortion. Hoffa blamed Provenzano and his pals in the mob for much of the federal heat that had come down on the Teamsters and their president in the 1960s.

Brothers Anthony and Vito Giacalone — Tony Jack and Billy Jack to friends and the police who regularly tailed them — had lobbied hard for the peace meeting. The Giacalones described themselves as businessmen but authorities regarded both as captains of the Detroit Mafia.

Hoffa expected Tony Jack to be at the meeting, which undoubtedly dominated his thoughts as he puttered in the yard and chatted with Marty Woehl, the 11-year-old boy next door.

Woehl remembered that the conversation ended around 9 a.m. when Hoffa went inside to answer the phone. The boy, who did occasional errands for Hoffa, always had liked his neighbor.

"He treated you like a real person; he gave you respect," Woehl said. "And when you're a kid, you really appreciate that."

Woehl, who still lives in the house next door, said that was the last quiet day in the neighborhood for quite some time.

That morning, Charles Lenton O'Brien — everybody called him Chuckie — was in the basement of Marvin Adell's house on Inkster Road in Bloomfield Township, getting dressed for work.

He donned a white shirt and sport coat. A necktie would be a choker for the 5-foot-8, 200-plus-pound O'Brien on what promised to be a hot day.

O'Brien had been bunking with Adell, a wealthy industrialist and long-time friend, for about a year, since O'Brien's first marriage went on the rocks.

The arrangement was about to end because Chuckie, who worked for the Teamsters at union headquarters on Trumbull near Tiger Stadium in Detroit, had remarried and was transferring to a job with the union in Florida.

Chuckie's new wife, Brenda, had a family business in the South, and he was ready to get out of Detroit — and the long shadow of Jimmy Hoffa.

The son of a Teamster who was killed in the union's violent, formative years — when Hoffa muscled his way to the top — O'Brien had been sponsored by Hoffa into various union jobs. As a young man, he was almost embarrassingly devoted to Hoffa, describing himself as Jimmy's foster son and calling Hoffa "Dad."

But the relationship between Hoffa and O'Brien, 40, had soured. Hoffa believed O'Brien had squandered some of his money while Hoffa was in prison. O'Brien had increasingly allied himself with Frank Fitzsimmons, Hoffa's hand-picked successor as union president, and now his rival for power. Fitzsimmons had helped O'Brien get the Flori-

See HOFFA, Page 13A

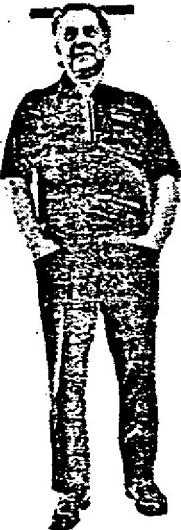
"I'll cut."



"You wrap."

HOFFA, Page 1772

HOFFA THE SECRET FILES



HOFFA, from Page 12A

da job.

People in the union's power circle regarded O'Brien as a one-time trusted Hoffa underling who didn't shy away from tough jobs, but lately was more a braggart and gossip, with a growing reputation for embroidering the truth.

Since O'Brien didn't have a car, Adell gave him a lift on weekdays to a shopping center at Maple and Telegraph roads, where Teamster organizer Bobby Holmes Jr. picked him up for the ride into Detroit.

This day, O'Brien was early enough to buy a Free Press and was sitting on a strip of grass reading when Holmes arrived. He was at work by 9:15 a.m., but soon would have a very fishy reason to leave.

Hoffa readies for meeting

Around 11 a.m., Anthony Giacalone — Uncle Tony to Chuckie O'Brien — drove a black-over-peach Cadillac with Florida license plates into the parking lot of the Travelers Tower on Evergreen Road in Southfield. His destination was on the first floor, the Southfield Athletic Club.

Giacalone usually kept to himself at the club, or spent time in the steam room. But today, he was outgoing, greeting other members, shaking hands and signing up for a 12:30 session with masseur Greg Ryan.

Chuckie O'Brien had decided to skip a union meeting he was scheduled to attend in Toronto and spent most of the morning packing up personal things for his upcoming move. He ambled out of his second-floor office around 11:15 a.m. and saw a seven-foot-long cardboard carton sitting on the receptionist's desk.

"A fish," the receptionist said.

A salmon, to be exact, sent frozen by a Seattle Teamsters official to Detroit local leader Bobby Holmes Sr. O'Brien hefted the awkward box and guessed it to weigh about 40 pounds. Sloshing sounds came from inside and O'Brien figured the big fish had been sitting at the airport for a few days.

With little else to do, he offered to run it out to Holmes' Farmington Hills residence before the fish went bad.

A union-owned station wagon used for errands was gone, so O'Brien called his buddy Joey Giacalone, son of Uncle Tony, at his office at Lift All, a heavy machinery firm on West Vernor. Sure, Joey said, I'll pick you up, you drop me back here and then you can use my car to deliver the fish.

Joey Giacalone arrived at the Teamsters office a little before noon in his new, burgundy Mercury Marquis Brougham. O'Brien walked out with the unwieldy carton over his shoulder, irked that it was dripping pink liquid onto his white shirt.

Spreading newspapers to catch the seeping mess, O'Brien and Giacalone put one end of the box in the rear footwell of the big Mercury and angled the other end out the opposite window.

Holmes was away, at the union meeting in Toronto. He was surprised to learn O'Brien was a no-show, asking a companion, "Where the hell is the little bastard?"

Holmes' wife, Vi, was dealing with a cranky infant son when O'Brien arrived at midday with a thawing fish dripping blood all over her clean floors.

O'Brien hustled the box into the kitchen and opened it. Vi Holmes recoiled at the sight of the fish staring up at her.

"I can't stand it," she said.

Don't worry, said O'Brien, grabbing a knife and chopping off the head.

"I'll cut," he said. "You wrap."

They quickly reduced the salmon to a tidy stack of steaks. O'Brien made a couple of calls that no one seemed to answer and then left, taking with him the soggy fish box, and the head and tail.

Jimmy Hoffa ate lunch at home with Josephine, then cleaned up for his meeting. He decided against his usual business suit, donning a blue Ban-Lon shirt with a zipper front, blue pants and blue shoes.

Hoffa wore his trademark, working man's white socks. Jo said he always wore them because dark socks weren't absorbent enough for his sweaty feet. Even when he was union president, he wore custom-made socks that were black from the ankle up and white cotton on the bottom.

Before leaving home, Hoffa called William Aumock, a business agent with a sign-painters' union local in Hazel Park. Hoffa asked him to find someone to paint a mural at the lakefront house, which everyone still referred to as "the cottage."

Hoffa said he didn't want a gift; he'd pay for the painting.

About 1:15 p.m., Hoffa was piloting his green Pontiac Grand Ville south. He didn't use his seat belt and had inserted a plastic card into the clasp to silence an irritating buzzer.

Before his meeting, Hoffa wanted to stop in Pontiac to see "the Pope."

It was an unusual nickname for Louie Linteau, who, at 61, had a weathered face, crew cut hair and a foul mouth. Friends had hung him with the moniker years ago because he seemed to be everywhere all the time.

Linteau was a former president of Teamsters Local 614 in Pontiac and had been a close friend of Hoffa's for decades. Hoffa had secretly helped him start his new limousine company, Airport Service Lines, in an old garage at 200 N. Paddock in Pontiac.

Hoffa stopped by once in a while to use the weight lifting equipment in an exercise room Linteau set up at the rear of the place.

Airport Service employees said Hoffa was obviously in a hurry when he arrived around 1:30 p.m. They told

him Lintneau had left 10 minutes earlier to go to the bank and take an employee, Cynthia Green, to lunch.

Speaking to dispatcher Elmer Reeves — but talking loudly enough for two other employees to hear — Hoffa said he was on his way to a restaurant in a shopping center at Telegraph and Maple, the Machus Red Fox.

Hoffa said he had a meeting there with Tony Giacalone and two other guys. He said their names, but Reeves and the other employees didn't catch them as Hoffa left.

At 2:10 p.m., about the time Tony Giacalone was getting off the massage table, Lintneau was on the phone to Local 299 in Detroit, asking whether a secretary for the local had paid out of her own pocket for Chuckie O'Brien's plane ticket to Florida. Lintneau knew

about O'Brien's past money troubles with Hoffa, former president of Local 299.

And through O'Brien, Lintneau also knew Anthony Giacalone. In fact, he had paid Giacalone \$135,000 for a Florida condominium. Lintneau later would say he had heard that O'Brien was turning to Uncle Tony for money and wonder aloud how O'Brien was going to pay the debt.

A string of no-shows

The parking lot was hot. So was Jimmy Hoffa. His company was late.

At 2:15, Hoffa stalked to the pay phone on a post in front of Damman Hardware, directly behind the Red Fox, and called home.

"Where the hell is Giacalone?" he asked Josephine. She said she hadn't heard from anyone.

A few people recognized him, including a suburban developer who thought it odd to see such a famous figure pacing and fidgeting by himself in a parking lot.

Two Southfield real estate brokers and a client saw Hoffa as they emerged from the Red Fox after a long lunch.

One of the brokers approached him.

"You probably don't remember me," he told Hoffa, "but we met when you spoke at the Lions Club downtown a couple of weeks ago."

The broker remembered Hoffa was "cordial as all hell" and told him the Lions were "a great bunch of guys."

They shook hands and parted, and the broker would never forget Hoffa's grip: "Like shaking hands with a steel bar," he said.

While Hoffa perspired, a freshly barbershop Tony Giacalone got into the elevator of the Travelers Tower about 3 p.m. and pushed the button for the fourth floor. He walked into Suite 442 for an hour's visit with lawyer Bernard Humphrey.

Louis Lintneau returned to his office around 3 p.m. and was told that Hoffa had been there. The meeting made sense to Lintneau. He knew about the trouble between Provenzano and Hoffa and he knew that the Giacalones had visited Hoffa at home July 12 — the only time they were ever in his house. Hoffa told Lintneau that a meeting was arranged.

At 3:27 p.m., Lintneau got a call from Hoffa. He was furious.

"That dirty son of a bitch Tony Jocks set this meeting up, and he's an hour and a half late," Hoffa said.

Calm down, Lintneau said. Drop by the office on your way home.

Hoffa said he would and Lintneau waited for him until 6:30, then left for a meeting at the Pine Knob outdoor theater.

Josephine Hoffa had been waiting since 4 p.m., steaks at the ready. But her husband never called. It was so out of character, she was worried, but she wasn't sure whom to call. Jimmy hated people meddling in his business — especially the police.

Lintneau was back in his office by 9:40 p.m. Still no word from Hoffa. He called the house.

"Let me talk to Jimmy," Lintneau said to Josephine.

"Where is my husband?" she cried.

Lintneau tried to reassure her, then hung up and called the Red Fox.

"You mean *the* Jimmy Hoffa?" a hostess said when he asked. There was no paging system, so she quickly walked through the restaurant, checking tables and the bar.

No Hoffa, she said.

Lintneau called Anthony Giacalone.

"Have you heard from the Little Guy?" he asked.

"No, why?" Giacalone answered.

"He's not home and he was supposed to meet with you," said Lintneau.

Giacalone said he had no such meeting scheduled and had spent most of the day at the Southfield Athletic Club.

Lintneau was worried. He called Josephine and told her he would be right over.

Chuckie O'Brien, at the end of his workday, had caught a ride with Joe Valenti, an official of Teamsters Local 214 in Detroit, to a car wash at Grand River and Orchard Lake Road in Farmington, where Adell picked him up.

They went out for a Chinese dinner.

Back home, O'Brien flipped on the television to watch the 11 p.m. news. Nothing caught his attention and he went to bed.

The closing crew left the Red Fox around 1 a.m. A few workers noticed the green Pontiac in the parking lot, but didn't give it much thought.

COMING UP

Sunday in the Free Press
Comment section: Jimmy's
Gone. The police are called.
Young Hoffa seeks answers
from Chuckie O'Brien.



FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 1/20/93

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED] 57C
 (Attn: SSA [REDACTED] O.C./Drug
 Operational Section II,
 LCN/IOC/Labor Unit)

FROM : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (P) (C-8)

SUBJECT : HOFFEX
 OC/DI - LCN - DETROIT FAMILY
 (OO: DETROIT)

Enclosed for the Bureau are four newspaper clippings from "The Detroit Free Press" concerning the disappearance of JAMES R. HOFFA. These articles were published in the December 19, 20 and 21, 1992, editions of "The Detroit Free Press".

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 ② - Detroit
 JMF:prs
 (4) mrs

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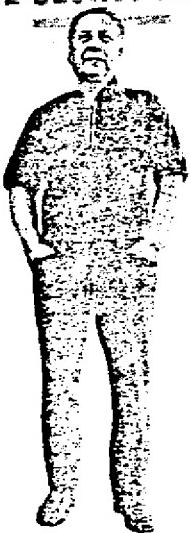
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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

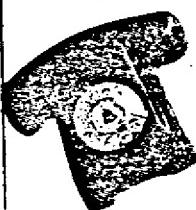
(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

HOFFA

THE SECRET FILES



Hoffa was seen waiting outside in the parking lot of the Machus Red Fox restaurant in Bloomfield



Township. He made at least two calls from a pay phone outside the hardware store behind the restaurant.

Hoffa was due home at 4 p.m., but he never arrived.

This account of the initial days of the Hoffa investigation is based on law enforcement files obtained by the Free Press and recent interviews.

Paroled from federal prison 3½ years earlier, former Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa had announced his plans in 1975 to again seek the union leadership. He would run against Frank Fitzsimmons, once his protege.

On July 30, Hoffa left home for an afternoon meeting. He told people the participants would include Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, reputed by federal authorities to be a captain of organized crime in Detroit.

SECOND
OF THREE
PARTS

Date: 12/20/92

Edition: The Detroit Free Press
1G

Title: HOFFEX

Character: 281A-DE-67821

or

Classification:

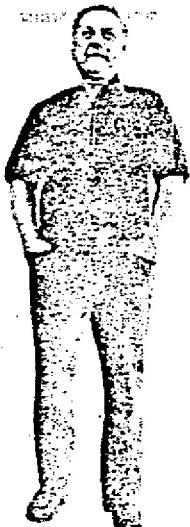
Submitting Office: Detroit Division

Indexing:

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HOFFA

THE SECRET FILES



THE CAST

Curt Gremier

Chief of detectives of the 60-member Bloomfield Township Police Department, was the first officer in charge of the Hoffa investigation, quickly sensed it was no ordinary missing person investigation.



James Philip Hoffa

Son of the famous union leader; a labor lawyer who was 34 when his father disappeared. Short and solidly built like his dad, he quit the Michigan State football team after two seasons to concentrate on his studies.



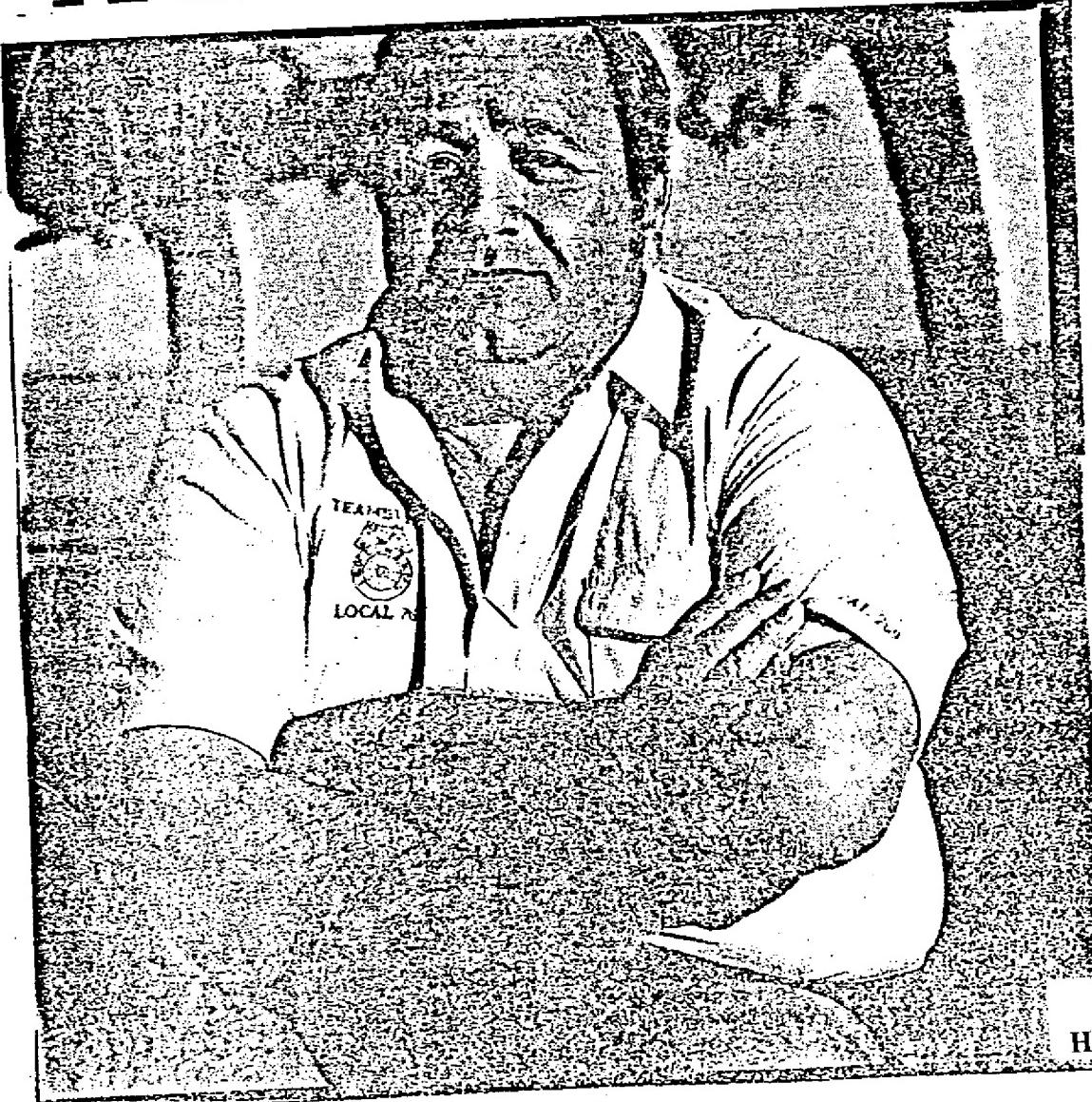
Frank Fitzsimmons

Hoffa's handpicked choice to succeed him as Teamsters president when Hoffa went to prison; then became Hoffa's rival for control of the union. Made a quiet visit to Detroit five days before Hoffa vanished.

Barbara Crancer

Hoffa's oldest child, also a lawyer, lived in St. Louis, where her husband was a steel company executive. She was haunted by a mental image of her father, seated and slumped over, as her flight took off for Michigan.

'MAYBE HE TOOK A LITTLE TRIP'



Chuckie O'Brien, whose relationship with Jimmy Hoffa had gone sour by 1975, says the FBI painted him as a fall guy.

Joey Giacalone

Son of Anthony Giacalone. Loaned his new Mercury to Chuckie O'Brien the day Hoffa vanished, so O'Brien could deliver a thawing, dripping salmon to a Teamsters official in Farmington Hills.

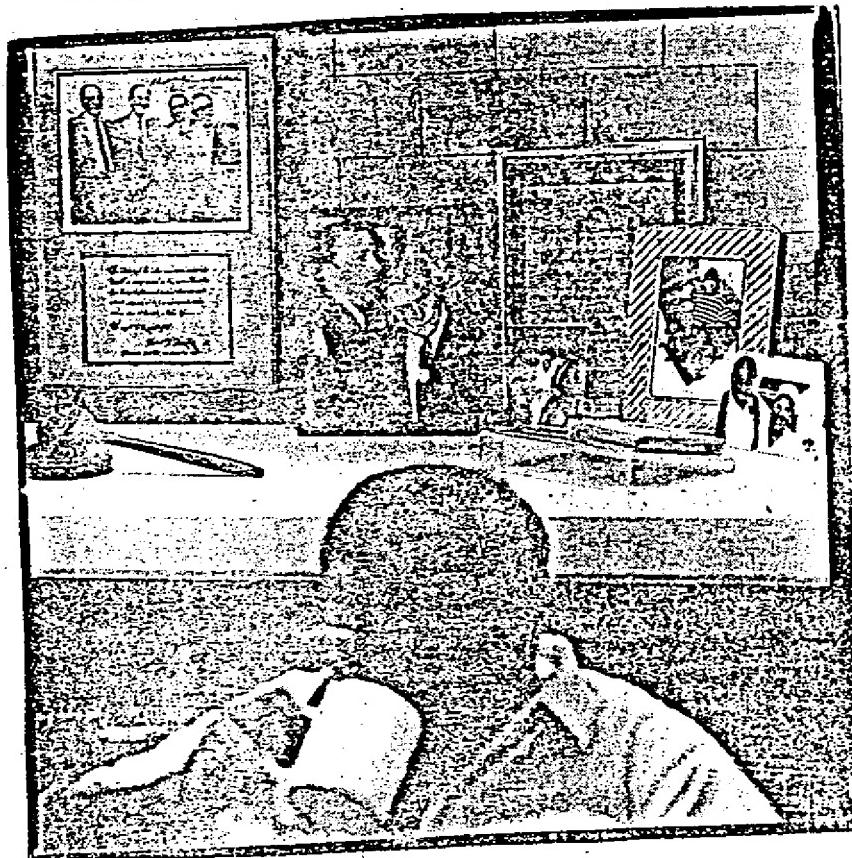


Jimmy Hoffa confers with Frank Fitzsimmons during a Teamsters convention in Miami Beach in 1966.





James Hoffa
grilled O'Brien
about his
whereabouts
the day that
Jimmy Hoffa
disappeared.



Chuckie O'Brien, a
onetime assistant
to Jimmy Hoffa
who referred to him
as Dad, keeps
photos and
memorabilia of
Hoffa with him in
Florida.

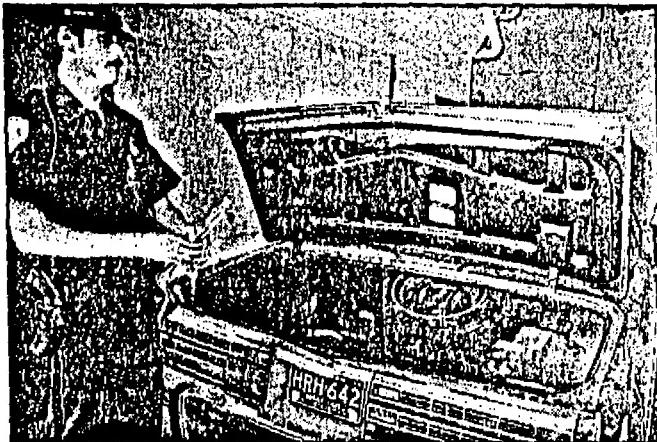


Above: Barbara Crancer holds a photo of her with her father, Jimmy Hoffa.

CHAIN OF EVENTS

1

The Hoffa children rush by air to Detroit after their mother calls to say Dad never came home the night before. Both know it is way out of character and suspect the worst.

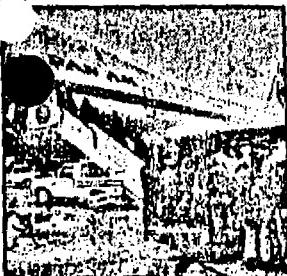


IRA ROSENBERG/Detroit Free Press

A police officer stands at Jimmy Hoffa's impounded car in 1975.

2

Bloomfield Township police tow Hoffa's car to a garage and nervously pop open the trunk, half expecting to find a body. The trunk is empty. State police, Detroit Police mob experts and the FBI arrive to help.

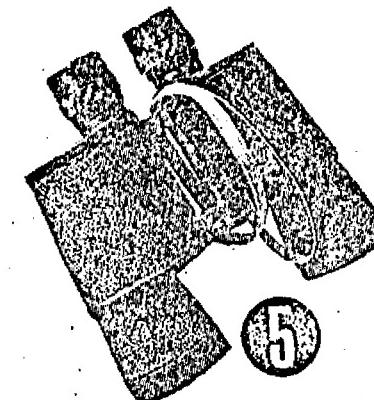


3

Chuckie O'Brien, right, at first won't say where he was the afternoon Hoffa vanished, then tells Hoffa's son that he stopped by the Southfield Athletic Club to see Anthony Giacalone.

4

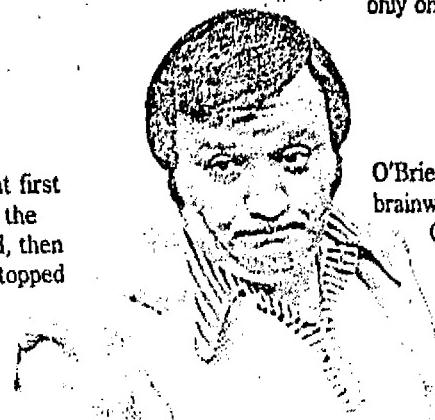
A horde of reporters descend on the Hoffa property on Square Lake. The first word from police is "no reason to suspect foul play," but speculation is rampant that Hoffa was kidnapped and killed.



5

Detroit police begin intense surveillance of the Giacalone brothers, watching their Cadillacs come and go and eavesdropping on conversations; Hoffa's name comes up only once.

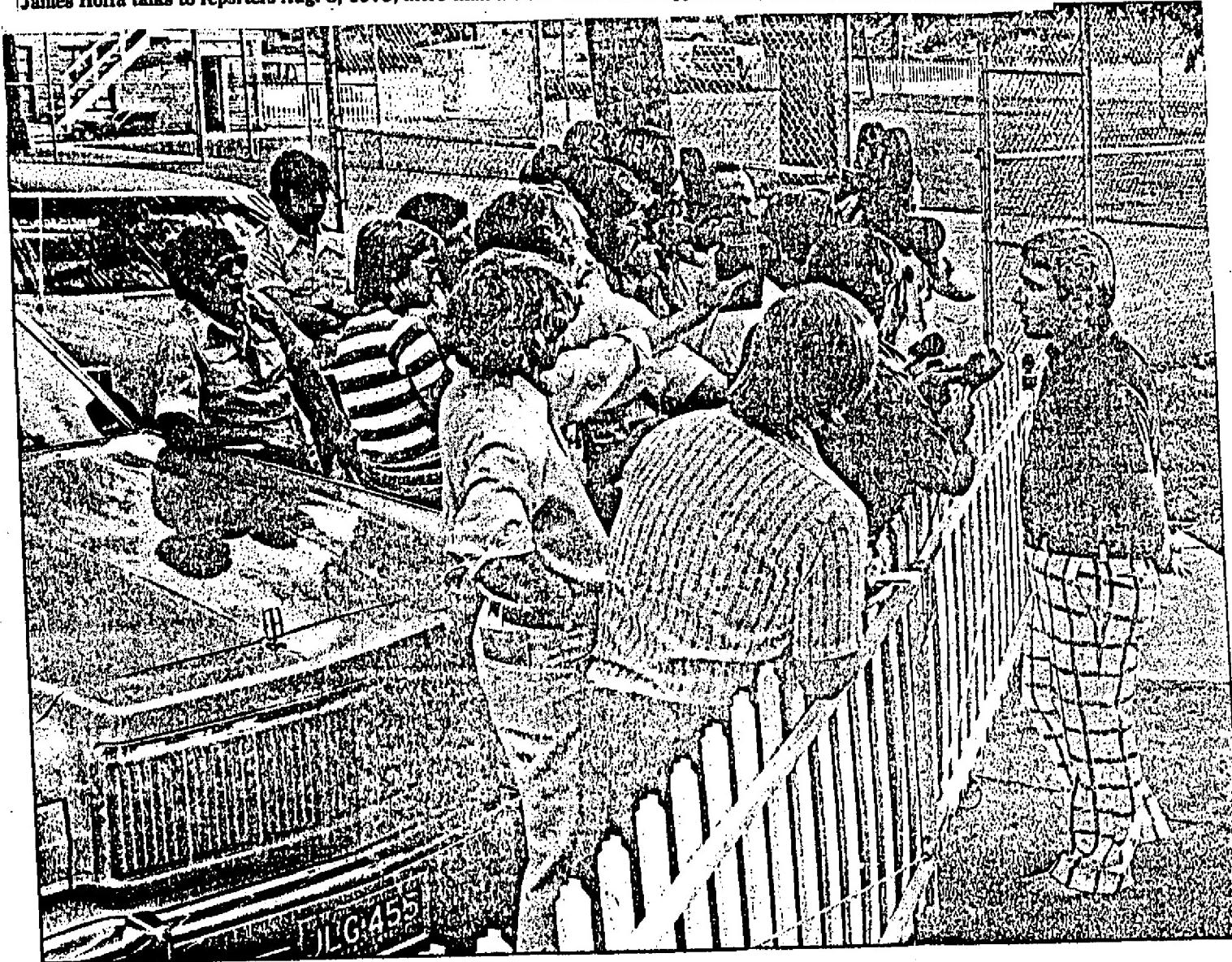
6



O'Brien speculates that the FBI has brainwashed Hoffa's son into believing O'Brien was involved in the disappearance. He says authorities have driven a wedge between the two of them.

Family begins its own search for answers

James Hoffa talks to reporters Aug. 8, 1975, more than a week after the disappearance, at the Hoffa home in Lake Orion.



HOFFA, Page 1783

HOFFA THE SECRET FILES



BY JACK KRESNAK AND JOE SWICKARD

Free Press Staff Writers
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Hat do you mean Dad didn't come home?"

As the sun was rising July 31, 1975, James Hoffa couldn't believe what his mother was telling him over the phone about his

father. He knew there had to be real trouble. Hoffa told his mother he would charter a plane to get home as quickly as possible from his vacation spot near Traverse City. His family could follow by car.

At 7:30 a.m. Missouri time, the telephone rang in Barbara Crancer's St. Louis home.

"Your father didn't come home last night," Josephine Hoffa told her daughter.

"I'll be there," Crancer said.

She got someone to watch her 12-year-old daughter and raced to the hospital bed where her husband was recovering from a car accident.

"Mom's sick," Crancer told him, not wanting to upset her husband. "She needs me." From his hospital bed, Robert Crancer would learn later watching the evening news why his wife had rushed out of town.

As her flight to Detroit rose, Crancer rested her head against the window and closed her eyes. In her mind, she saw Dad wearing a blue, zipper-front shirt, blue slacks and his blue shoes.

Her father was seated, but slumped over. Crancer pressed her head against the cool glass.

And somehow she knew right then.

"I'll never see him again," she told herself.

At the Hoffa home on Square Lake, Josephine had grown increasingly frantic through the night as she sat waiting with longtime friend Louis Linteau. Five times, a dark, compact car had pulled into the long driveway, backed out and left, leaving Josephine near hysteria.

Linteau had fallen asleep around 3 a.m., but Josephine shook him awake three hours later. Was it time to call the police?

Linteau told her to wait a while longer and drove back to his office in Pontiac, where Jimmy was supposed to stop after Tuesday's meeting at the Machus Red Fox.

There was no sign of him in Pontiac, so Linteau again called Anthony Giacalone, one of the people Hoffa had said he was supposed to meet.

"Did I wake you?" Linteau asked.

"No, I was making coffee," Giacalone said.

"The Little Guy never came home last night," Linteau said.

Giacalone was irked.

"Like I said last night," he told Linteau, "I was at the Southfield Athletic Club."

Any idea where he could be? Linteau asked.

"Maybe he took a little trip," Giacalone said.

By 7:45 a.m., Linteau was in the Red Fox parking lot, looking over a Pontiac that appeared to be Hoffa's.

But the driver's-side door was open and Linteau knew that Hoffa always locked his car. So he opened the glove box and found Hoffa's registration. He noted the plastic card to silence the seat belt buzzer.

Linteau decided it was time to call in the law.

When the missing person report came into Bloomfield Township police, Chief of Detectives Lt. Curt Grennier thought it might be a joke.

But within a few minutes, a patrol officer had confirmed that the empty, unlocked car in the Red Fox lot was owned by Jimmy Hoffa.

Grennier left immediately for the restaurant. He remembers thinking that if this did turn out to be something big, he didn't want any mistakes that could come back to haunt him or his 60-member department.

Grennier also was aware of recent violence involving the Teamsters.

Three weeks earlier, the car of Local 299 Vice President Richard Fitzsimmons — son of international union President Frank Fitzsimmons — was destroyed in a daylight bombing outside Nemo's, a popular saloon near Tiger Stadium.

When they arrived at the Red Fox, Grennier and Capt. James Keller, the department's chief of operations, agreed that Hoffa's car should be towed to the garage at the police station, up Telegraph to near Long Lake Road.

Soon, Hoffa's son gave verbal authorization to pop the trunk.

Grennier and other police who gathered around half expected to find Hoffa's body inside.

But the trunk was empty.

Grennier recalls thinking at that moment that "we aren't going to find him by ourselves." But he had no way of knowing how massive and frustrating the search would become.

Loyalty goes out the window

While Hoffa's car sat at one end of the Red Fox lot on that Thursday morning, Chuckie O'Brien was dropped off as usual at the other end to await his ride to work at Teamsters offices in Detroit.

O'Brien was indebted to Frank Fitzsimmons for rescuing him from a union organizing project on the Alaska pipeline, an assignment insiders said was a payback for blowing money and time in California while supposedly recruiting farm workers.

Now Fitzsimmons had agreed to send O'Brien to a Teamsters office just north of Miami, which pleased his new wife, Brenda Burger, who was from Arkansas and not interested in living in the North.

O'Brien even had regained his union credit cards, which were revoked after his California misadventure.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., and a graduate of a military academy, O'Brien came to Detroit in 1952 and signed on as junior organizer with the Teamsters. Five years later, he was assigned to be an assistant to Hoffa.

In 1967, O'Brien was promoted to an international organizer, but titles meant little. For a long time, O'Brien basically took care of special favors and errands for Hoffa, and began describing himself as the union leader's foster son.

He took credit for burglarizing a reporter's apartment to look for law enforcement files and for pulling a gruesome stunt involving Detroit News Editor Martin Hayden.

Riled by the newspaper's anti-Hoffa stance, O'Brien claimed he was part of the crew that sent Hayden a gift package containing a human head — its eyes propped open with toothpicks — from a medical school cadaver.

O'Brien explained the prank years later with a rueful grin, saying he was young at the time, and "when you're young, you do goofy things."

When Hoffa went to prison in 1967, O'Brien was on the limited visitors list and hired a plane to fly a Happy Birthday banner over the penitentiary every year on Hoffa's birthday, Valentine's Day.

But their relationship started to sour after Hoffa's release in December 1971.

Hoffa believed O'Brien had squandered some of his money and knew O'Brien was increasingly in debt to the Giacalones. Hoffa, who valued loyalty,

also saw O'Brien aligning more with Fitzsimmons, whom Hoffa saw as his rival for control of the union.

Hoffa also pulled some old levers to crush O'Brien's dream of running for president of Detroit Local 299, Hoffa's old local and the power base he planned to use to retake the union helm.

There was even word at an April 1975 Teamsters convention that O'Brien was trying to spread a rumor that Hoffa could be cooperating with his old enemy the FBI in an investigation of the union.

It didn't have much credibility coming from O'Brien, who had a reputation for embellishing facts.

Bloomfield Township police, meanwhile, had few clues at all and one of the department's first steps was to put out a call for help. Soon, state police evidence technicians were poring over Hoffa's car.

The FBI technically had no reason to be involved in a local missing-person case, but Special Agent Robert Neumann was sent in to keep an eye on the situation.

Detroit Police sent an organized crime expert.

An interview team of Grennier, Neumann, State Police Detective Sgt. Joseph Koenig, Bloomfield Detective Wally Quarles and Sgt. William Noseworthy of the Detroit Police set out to talk to Linteau at his Pontiac office.

Linteau's secretary had to bring in extra chairs to accommodate all the cops who filled Linteau's small, spare office at the rear of his limousine service.

The Pope, as he was known, was in fine form, relating what he knew of events leading to Hoffa's disappearance, punctuating with profanity and bouncing to his feet to make a point. He was sure that Hoffa had called him at

exactly 3:27 p.m., railing that Tony Giacalone was late for their meeting.

Quarles couldn't figure out Linteau.

Here was a crude, foul-mouthed man in a cheap office in the back of a garage talking about famous people such as Jimmy Hoffa as if they were intimate friends.

It didn't make sense.

"How did he get to rub elbows with Hoffa and the rest of these guys?" Quarles asked himself. "We're talking about mob connections and a lot of big names and Louis Linteau, Who the hell is Louis Linteau?"

"You couldn't tell if he was giving us bullshit or nothing but the truth," Grennier said. "He'd never shut up, always going off on tangents."

In the course of his story, Linteau also let drop the name of Charles O'Brien. He told the police that everyone knew O'Brien as Chuckie.

Linteau had left a message for

See HOFFA, Page 5G



**On Aug. 3,
young Hoffa's
private, unlisted
telephone rang.
"You're next,"
someone said,
and hung up.**

O'Brien earlier in the day, and O'Brien called back around 2 p.m., after the police were gone.

"The Old Man is missing," Linteau said. "Where were you? Where were you?"

O'Brien wanted to know where Hoffa's son was. Linteau said the young Hoffa was on his way home, maybe already there. Then he demanded again to know where O'Brien had been all day.

O'Brien called the Pope a "no-good asshole" and hung up.

He reached James Hoffa a short time later at the son's home in Troy.

Although the two were hardly friends, much less family, O'Brien said: "Locie says Dad is missing."

Hoffa asked O'Brien to "cover the house" in Troy for messages, visitors or trouble while he joined his mother at Square Lake.

Sure, said O'Brien, except he had no car.

Once again he called Anthony Giacalone's son, Joey, who was headed north anyway, with tickets for a Chicago concert at Pine Knob. They stopped first at Giacalone's lakeside condominium in St. Clair Shores, where O'Brien chatted with Uncle Tony while Joey showered and changed.

By now the Hoffa story was all over the news, and Chuckie would recall later that Uncle Tony expressed concern about his missing acquaintance.

At the Hoffa house, son James was giving police more insight into "the kinds of dealings" his father was involved in, and why he was certain this was more than a missing person case.

James Hoffa said that on May 15, he hosted a meeting between his father and Vito and Anthony Giacalone in his law office on the 33rd floor of the Guardian Building in downtown Detroit. He said Anthony Giacalone wanted Jimmy Hoffa to make peace with Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters official.

Hoffa said that the Giacalones told his father that Provenzano was openly criticizing and threatening Jimmy Hoffa. He said it was clear his father wanted nothing more to do with Tony Pro and turned thumbs-down on a meeting. Young Hoffa said his father had excluded him from a meeting at the house with the Giacalones two weeks ago.

He said the Giacalones also wanted Jimmy Hoffa to get his hands on documents that were to be used by a federal strike force to obtain a grand jury indictment against Anthony Giacalone in an alleged insurance scam. Jimmy Hoffa said he was unable to help, but they parted on good terms, young Hoffa said.

The detectives left the family with a small tape recorder rigged with a suction cup microphone. The family was instructed to record all telephone calls.

The detectives said they would be in touch and walked out the door — into a horde of reporters and photographers, barely being kept at bay by a friend of the Hoffa family.

The police looked at one another, and nodded to Grennier. It was his case.

The 39-year-old detective squinted into the camera lights and stepped into the evening news for the first of what would become many times.

Grennier said he had "no reason to suspect" foul play, although "we're giving it every consideration — let's put it that way."

Reporters repeatedly asked whom Hoffa was supposed to meet at the Machus Red Fox. Grennier would only say "there's a lot of speculation."

One of the questions was particularly stupid: "Is Mrs. Hoffa upset?"

Grennier can't recall exactly what he said, except that "you give a dumb answer to a dumb question."

Marty Woehl, the boy next door, has never seen anything like it.

"They were there from all over the world — Hong Kong, England, everywhere," he said. "I had my autograph book with me."

The reporters mostly ignored him as he pedaled his bike up and down the two-lane road in front of the Hoffa place, eavesdropping on their chatter.

"I was just a kid," he said. "They treated me like I was a tree."

Today if Hoffa's name comes up,

Woehl mentions that he was the famous man's neighbor, but "people don't believe me, so I let it drop."

At the Bloomfield Township Police Station, messages were waiting and telephones were ringing with inquiries from everywhere. And no one had even typed up a missing person report yet.

O'Brien gets a grilling

After the police left, Jim Hoffa kept running the scenario as he knew it over and over in his mind, and kept coming up with questions.

Where was Anthony Giacalone?

Did Provenzano make it to the meeting?

Why would Dad wait around so long?

Was Dad taken somewhere else for the meeting?

Who could get Dad into a car?

Where was Frank Fitzsimmons?

And where the hell had Chuckie O'Brien been Wednesday?

Hoffa began making phone calls, trying to account for everyone's movements.

Around 3 a.m. Aug. 2, he called O'Brien, still stationed at Hoffa's house in Troy.

O'Brien said Hoffa's wife and children were asleep; he had all the lights on and a .30-.30 rifle slung across his lap. Nobody, he assured Hoffa, was going to pull anything with him around.

Hoffa told O'Brien to come to the cottage right away. O'Brien balked, saying he didn't want to leave Jim's wife and kids. Hoffa said they'd be all right, especially since another Teamsters official was there, too.

O'Brien got to the cottage about 4 a.m.

Jim Hoffa, the only one awake, began to recount what he knew so far.

O'Brien told him to calm down, reminding him that one of his father's lessons was to never lose your cool in a crisis.

"You're spinning," O'Brien said. "Take your pants off and lay down; you need a rest."

Hoffa told him he was a lawyer and would handle the situation. He made it clear he wanted the truth from O'Brien.

He had all the lights on and a .30-.30 rifle slung across his lap.
Nobody was going to pull anything with him around.

He said he knew O'Brien skipped out on a union business trip to Toronto the day of the meeting, and knew his father would never get into a car with someone he didn't trust.

"You didn't go to Toronto like you were supposed to, Chuckie? Why didn't you go? Where were you, Chuckie?" he asked.

O'Brien told him about cleaning out his desk and delivering the fish.

Afterward, he said he had stopped by the Southfield Athletic Club to see Uncle Tony.

O'Brien said he felt himself "reaching the boiling point" under Hoffa's interrogation. He left around 4:45 a.m.

The two men have not seen each other since.

Snooping turns up little

On the morning of Aug. 1, an undercover team of Detroit police officers set up surveillance of the Giacalone brothers, watching for anything that might be a clue to the Hoffa case.

They were parked on a winding, shaded street just off Lake St. Clair in Grosse Pointe Shores, watching the home of Vito Giacalone.

In the driveway were two Cadillacs — Vito's black one and Tony's peach-and-black model — plus a white Lincoln Continental driven by their old friend Silverio (Sal) Vitello, a figure in Greektown gambling circles.

After an hour, the Giacalones and Vitello all left in the Lincoln for Sterling Heights, where they dropped in on Stanley Sobo, a dry cleaner with a long police record that included a conviction for bombing a competitor.

After a quick visit, the Lincoln headed west to the Troy Hilton, where the trio entered the coffee shop. Undercover officers Cynthia Wisniewski and Sgt. Dale Heberly followed them, arm in arm, and took the next booth.

Carefully pulling out a small notebook and pencil so she wouldn't be noticed, Wisniewski jotted down the snatches of conversation she could overhear.

Vitello brought up Hoffa's name, saying a "mutual friend" had shown him a box from Alaska that Hoffa wanted.

"But he's not going to get it," Vitello said.

For the next nine days Detroit police ran a painstaking surveillance of the Giacalones, watching them get their cars washed, go to the Southfield Athletic Club, drive to restaurants for lunch and dinner, and turn away reporters.

Once, on the evening of Aug. 9, surveillance officers saw Anthony Giacalone yell obscenities at a television news crew that had filmed him with his wife leaving their apartment at 24000 E. Jefferson in St. Clair Shores. Swearing loudly, Giacalone grabbed the camera from the news crew and tore out the film.

But that brief conversation overheard by Wisniewski in the coffee shop — and never really understood — was as close as the police ever got to the Giacalones in the Hoffa investigation.

A fee out of this world

Chuckie O'Brien's hasty exit from the Hoffa house left him feeling defensive. He wailed to anyone who would listen how he was wounded by accusations he could have anything to do with hurting the man he called Dad.

He believes such seeds were planted by Lintneau.

"That Louie," O'Brien says, "a real wire — jumping around all the time, calling here and calling there."

"The Old Man always said if anything happens, sit tight, wait and see what's going on. That, they didn't do," O'Brien said in a recent interview. "Young Jimmy was listening to that screwy Louie Lintneau. ... He was brainwashed by the FBI. I became the enemy. They worked on Jimmy Jr.'s mind — the deceit they put between us, the bitterness."

Young Hoffa didn't believe O'Brien's protests then and still dismisses them.

"He's a pathological liar. It's a sickness," said Barbara Crancer, James Hoffa's sister.

James Hoffa remembers that on Aug. 3, his private, unlisted telephone rang and someone said "you're next," then hung up. Hoffa told the FBI it sounded like O'Brien.

The phone at the riota house continued to ring night and day. James Hoffa turned off the tape recorder when he recognized Frank Fitzsimmons on the line, but Hoffa's former protege shed no light on the mystery, only asking whether there was anything he could do.

The family quickly had another phone line installed so they could dial out without missing an incoming call that might be important.

James Hoffa talked to his sister about calling Peter Hurkos, a Dutch housepainter who had become a famous psychic. When they learned that Hurkos would command a \$15,000 fee, the children decided against it.

On Aug. 8, Barbara Crancer got a call from Josephine Provenzano, 19-year-old daughter of Tony Pro in New Jersey, and a friend of the Hoffa children.

Crancer asked about Josephine's father. The teenager said he was in the backyard, but he never came to the phone.

"We want our dad back," Crancer told Josephine.



COMING UP

Monday in the Free Press:
Leads, tips, wild goose chases
and the return of Chuckie.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Detroit Free Press

1A

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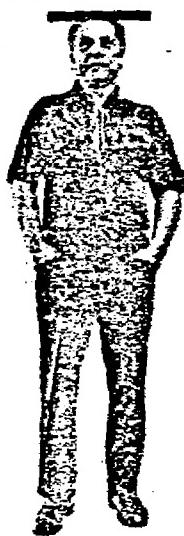
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HOFFA

THE SECRET FILES



Jimmy Hoffa was missing, and as the summer of 1975 dragged into its dog days, his family and police were convinced that the former union leader, once among the most powerful men in America, was dead, probably murdered.

Bent on regaining power in the volatile Teamsters union, Hoffa had left his Lake Orion home July 30 for an afternoon meeting and never returned.

Police and Hoffa's family were certain the Mafia was involved. Hoffa, after all, had encountered some shady characters in his rise to the top — people who didn't want him back in the game.

In the Detroit area, Hoffa was the No. 1 topic. If killers could do it in broad daylight to someone as famous as Jimmy Hoffa, folks said, they could do it to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

Everybody had a theory. But nobody who might really know was talking.

Last of three parts.

INSIDE

The trail
grows colder.
as FBI agents
come up
empty in
a swamp, a
waste-disposal
plant and
grand jury
rooms.

HOFFA, Page 1788

THE CAST

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Josephine Hoffa

fell ill about three weeks after the disappearance. The missing union leader's wife died in 1980, at age 62.



James P. Hoffa

is 51 and a Detroit labor lawyer. Jimmy Hoffa's son has recently considered running for the Teamsters presidency, if he can fulfill union membership requirements.



Barbara Crancer

is 54 and a lawyer, recently appointed a circuit judge in St. Louis. She continues to battle for release of the FBI files on her father.

Chuckie O'Brien

is 57 and semiretired in Boca Raton, Fla., after serving federal prison terms for making a false loan application and accepting an improper gift from an auto dealer. The man who once considered himself Hoffa's foster son works part-time for a friend's landscaping service and as a volunteer organizing Red Cross golf benefits.



Louis (The Pope) Linteanu

He was found dead of natural causes in 1978 at age 64 in his office and spartan living quarters at the rear of his limousine service in Pontiac



**Anthony (Tony Pro)
Provenzano**

He died in prison at age 71 in 1988 while serving time for labor racketeering and for murder in the 1961 death of Anthony Castellito, secretary-treasurer of Local 560, whose body never was found.

Vito (Billy Jack) Giacalone

He served time in prison for a 1977 conviction for possession of a concealed weapon. He's 69 and under indictment for income tax evasion.

**Anthony (Tony Jack)
Giacalone**

He served time in prison for a 1976 income tax evasion conviction and a 1979 extortion conviction. Now 73, he maintains homes in Florida and the Detroit area and is recovering from open-heart surgery.

**Salvatore (Sally Bugs)
Briguglio**

Considered a suspect in the Hoffa case, he was indicted in the Castellito killing, then shot to death at age 45 by two hooded gunmen outside a restaurant in New York's Little Italy on March 21, 1978.

Gabriel (Gabe) Briguglio

A suspect in the Hoffa case, he was convicted of labor racketeering in 1979. He's now 53 and driving a truck in New Jersey.

Thomas Andretta

A Hoffa suspect, he was convicted of labor racketeering in 1979. He's now 55 and a forklift operator in Las Vegas.

Frank Fitzsimmons

Hoffa's successor as president of the Teamsters died in office in 1981.

Lt. Curt Gremier

He retired from Bloomfield Township police in 1988. Now 57, he lives in northern Michigan.

Detective Wally Quarles

He is 53 and handles special assignments, chief's office, Bloomfield Township Police Department.

Joseph Koenig

He is 46 and in 1987 was promoted to inspector, assistant commander of Michigan State Police Criminal Investigation Division.

Bob Neumann

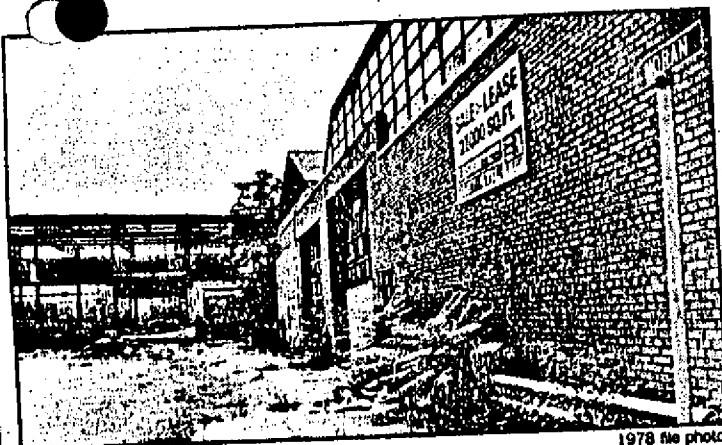
He is an FBI agent in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Bob Garrity

He is an FBI agent in Pittsburgh, Fla.

• MUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1992/DETROIT FREE PRESS DA

CHAIN OF EVENTS



1 FBI searched a Hamtramck sanitation plant for Hoffa's remains.

Police pursued tips that Hoffa's body was in a cornfield near Jackson, a gravel pit near Milford, a field in Waterford Township and an empty pool house behind a Bloomfield Hills mansion. The FBI searched a Hamtramck waste disposal facility where the body supposedly was destroyed.

2

One of the FBI's first official communiques about the Hoffa disappearance recounted an interview with Hoffa's son in which James P. Hoffa asserted that Chuckie O'Brien had to be involved in Hoffa's disappearance.

3

The FBI made several attempts to duplicate the movements of O'Brien on the day Hoffa vanished, using the times and places O'Brien gave agents. But the re-creations always finished with 60-90 minutes to spare.

4

In its first working theory of the case, the FBI declared that Hoffa probably thought he was being taken to the Southfield Athletic Club for a meeting when "a hit man was waiting at a select spot and either shot or strangled Hoffa."



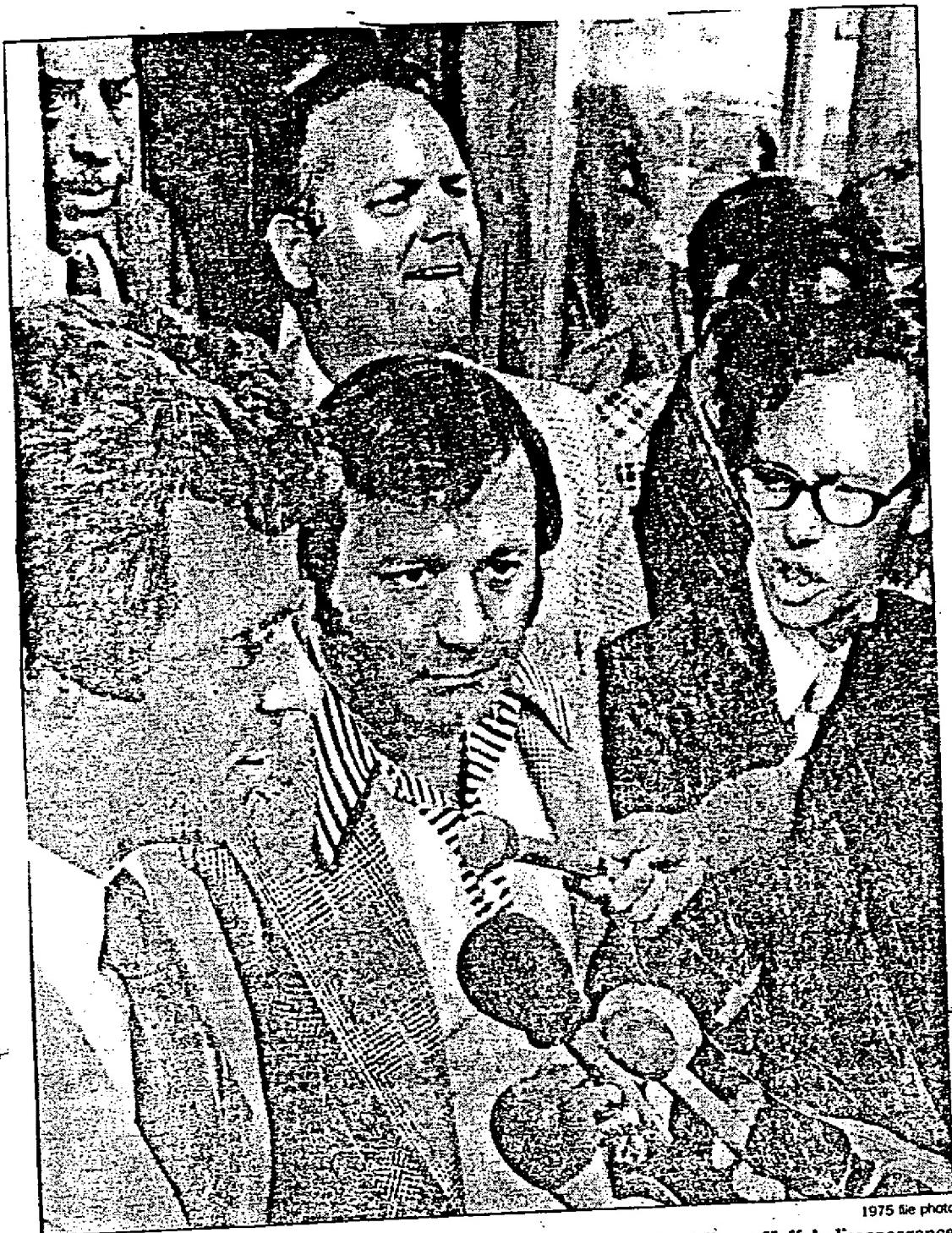
1975 file photo
Cops sweep a Michigan field.

5

Police and FBI agents spent hours with a secret informant who swore he had seen Hoffa get into a maroon car driven by O'Brien. Police were crestfallen when the informant finally said his vision came from God.

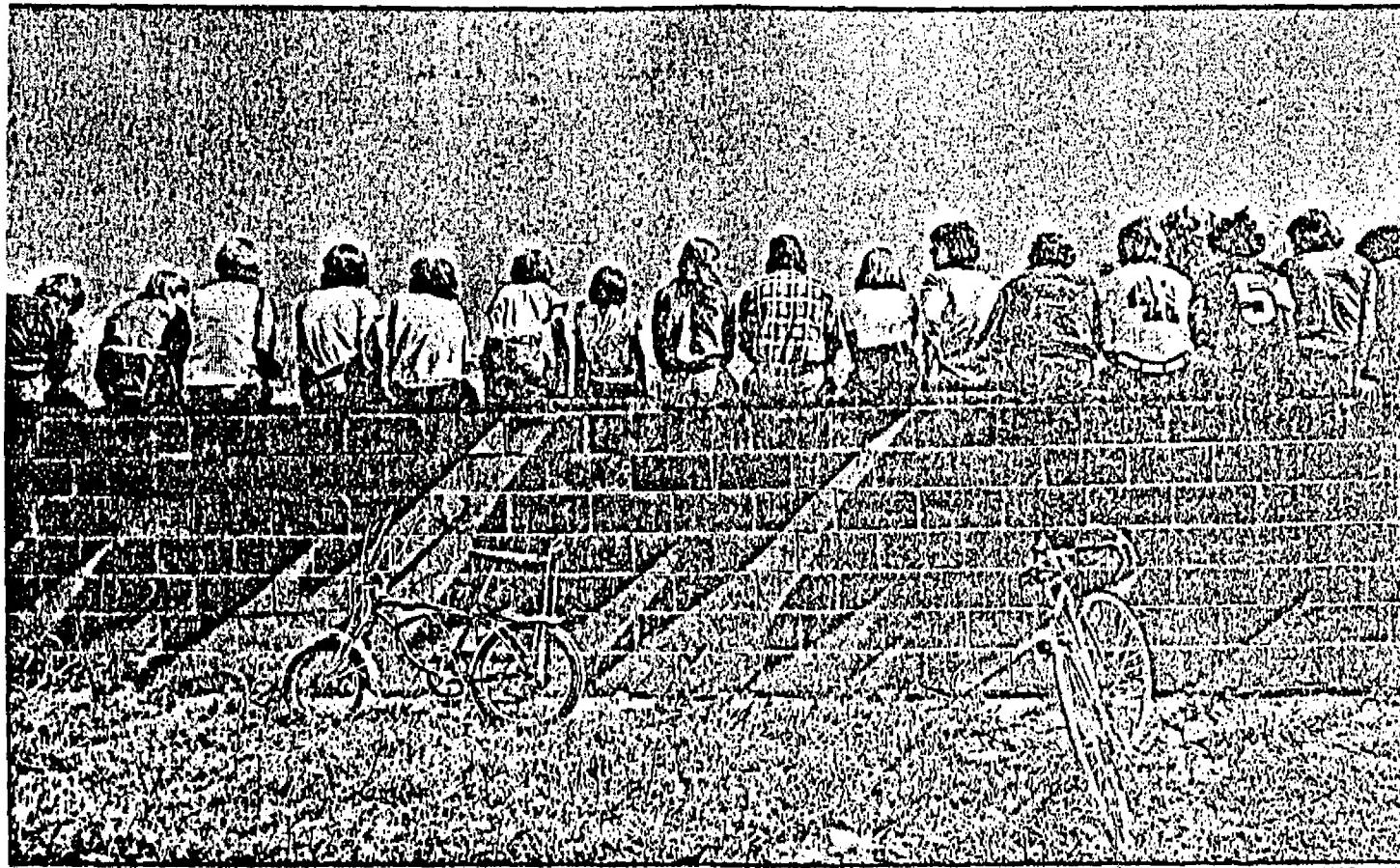
6

O'Brien's private, unlisted telephone number was found in the home of Salvatore Briguglio, one of the New Jersey mob figures suspected of killing Hoffa, in an FBI search on March 22, 1978 — the day after Briguglio was shot to death in New York.



1975 file photo

Chuckie O'Brien, center, stands silently as his lawyer answers questions about Jimmy Hoffa's disappearance at Teamsters headquarters in Detroit. Investigators left the building with the feeling O'Brien wasn't telling all.



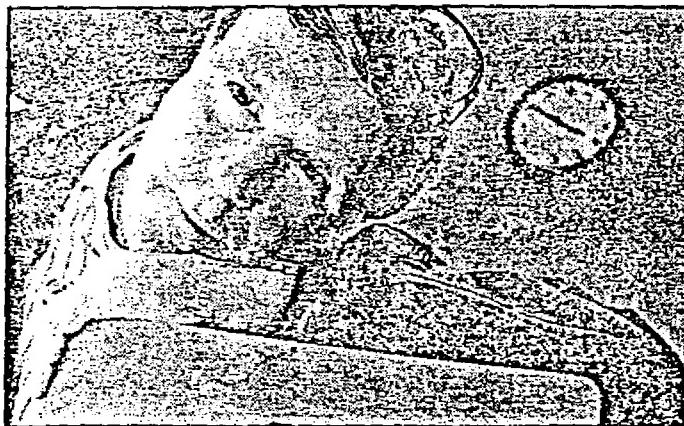
1976 file phot

Spectators watch authorities search for Hoffa's body in September 1975. Many investigators believe the remains are in the Detroit area.



Free photo

A \$200,000 reward prompted residents to search, too. These women found water, but no body.



WILLIAM DEKAY/Detroit Free Press

Wally Quarles, holding the Hoffa file, recalls bad tips and poison ivy.

THE BODY IT PROBABLY NEVER LEFT

The lack of hard evidence has left room for theories to abound about what really happened to Jimmy Hoffa.

Even among investigators, there is little agreement on details of Hoffa's death and the disposition of his body.

Hoffa was declared legally dead on Dec. 9, 1982, seven years and five months after he vanished.

The prevailing law enforcement theory is that Hoffa got into a car with someone he trusted, then was killed. Some investigators believe he was killed in the car, others that he was taken to a nearby location and killed.

Knowing Hoffa's fearless nature and strength — he once rushed and overpowered a man who pulled a gun in a Tennessee courtroom — some investigators think he must have been rendered quickly unconscious in the car, possibly with chloroform.

The killers probably disposed of Hoffa's body right away, in the Detroit area. There was no need to haul it — as some informants have claimed — to a landfill or Giants Stadium in New Jersey, or out to the middle of Lake Michigan.

He's also been said to be buried at the end of dirt road in the Arctic Circle and under or in just about every freeway, bridge or major building erected in southeast Michigan since 1975.

The FBI focused on Central Sanitation Services in Hamtramck. Informants said the giant shredders, compactors and incinerators there were used on 10 organized crime victims.

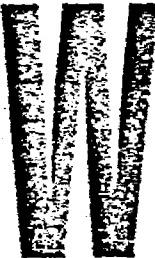
A search with scent dogs was fruitless. The plant burned in 1978; the site is home to the new Wayne County jail.

By Joe Swickard

HOFFA, Page 1793

ANOTHER LEAD TO NOWHERE

BY JACK KRESNAK AND JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writers
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ally Quarles was hot, tired, frustrated and itching like mad.

The Bloomfield Township Police detective had just spent eight hours on a scorching Saturday rooting around a cornfield and woods south of Jackson, searching for the body of Jimmy Hoffa.

Quarles had been working the Hoffa case for three days with virtually no sleep when he got the tip around 1 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, about the cornfield. The caller wouldn't give a name, but he sounded good, he knew things, and his directions were precise.

So Quarles, desperate for a lead, had headed west at first light and assembled a posse of a dozen cops to help.

But it had been a totally wasted day — at a time when the beleaguered Bloomfield Township department didn't have a day to waste on the biggest case in its history.

On top of it all, Quarles had gotten poison ivy and was facing a two-hour trip home with painfully irritated hands, arms and legs.

"That was the most miserable ride of my life," the detective said. Even with medication, it was a week before Quarles' suffering eased.

That first weekend after his father vanished, Jimmy Hoffa's son James was feeling sick, too.

Increasingly, he was convinced that Chuckie O'Brien, the Teamster his father had once treated like a son, was involved in what probably was the murder of Jimmy Hoffa. No matter how much leeway he allowed, the young Hoffa couldn't account for O'Brien's time on the Wednesday afternoon Hoffa's father disappeared from the parking lot of the Machus Red Fox restaurant at Maple and Telegraph roads.

O'Brien and young Hoffa had parted on bad terms before dawn Friday when Hoffa refused to stop grilling O'Brien about his whereabouts on the day in question. O'Brien had promised, though, to begin some ground-work for his own investigation of the mystery.

O'Brien had once been a special assistant to Jimmy Hoffa, the union leader's right-hand man for whatever needed doing. But now, his reputation was becoming that of a loudmouth, gossip and banger-on.

O'Brien was then way down the list of people police wanted to interview about Hoffa. Anthony (Tony Jack) Giacalone, the reputed

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FBI agents, police follow leads to nowhere

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organized crime captain Hoffa said he was going to meet the day he vanished, was still at the top.

In fact, while police sweated and young Hoffa fretted on that Saturday, O'Brien and Giacalone, the man he called Uncle Tony, were in the cool confines of the barbershop at the Southfield Athletic Club.

Jeffrey Schultz, the club's executive vice president, said he was surprised to see Giacalone show up that day, because of all the publicity linking him to Hoffa.

But Giacalone told Schultz he was "not about to hide my head in a hole because of some lousy news stories."

O'Brien left the club just ahead of Giacalone and noticed Uncle Tony's "security" — the undercover police who had been tailing him for two days.

That night, O'Brien attended the wedding of his friend Bobby Adell, the former Detroit fire commissioner whose wealthy brother Marvin had been letting O'Brien live in his basement since O'Brien's divorce. O'Brien stayed at the wedding reception until 3 a.m. but was up at 7:30 to catch a ride to Metro Airport from Hymie Cooper, an employee of Marvin Adell.

O'Brien was getting ready to kiss Detroit good-bye and take a Teamsters job near Miami arranged for him by Frank Fitzsimmons, the union president who had succeeded Hoffa and then drawn Hoffa's public wrath for the way he ran the nation's largest labor organization.

During the ride, O'Brien looked out the back window of Cooper's car and said, "I'll bet they're following me."

But nobody was.

The FBI takes over

Nothing was going right for the local and state police trying to crack the case.

A tape recorder police had given the Hoffa family to record all their telephone calls kept eating the tapes. Finally a detective went out and bought a new Sony.

But Sunday at 6:30 p.m. came good news.

The FBI called and announced they were assuming jurisdiction.

Previously barred from taking on a purely local missing person case, the FBI now said communications had been received demanding a ransom for Hoffa and implying he had been taken across state lines. That was enough to make a federal case of it — and bring to bear the FBI's massive, nationwide resources and expertise, the same force that spent a decade gathering the evidence that sent Jimmy Hoffa to prison for almost five years.

The communications were never fully explained, but Bloomfield Township police were too relieved to ask many questions.

Within the hour, FBI agent Bob Neumann, who had been informally advising the local police, and agents Bob Garrity and Mort Nichol were at the Hoffa cottage, reinterviewing family members.

James Hoffa, a near match for his father in intensity, immediately told the agents that the family considered Chuckie O'Brien the "prime suspect." He said O'Brien had stolen money from his father, thrown in with the Giacalones to extricate himself from serious personal financial problems and had shunned Jimmy Hoffa's overtures at reconciliation.

In the spare language of the bureau's internal communication, an agent sent a report to FBI headquarters in Washington:

"Detroit has determined that Giacalones were aware of O'Brien's financial plight . . . and insured commitment of O'Brien by furnishing him with the financing he needed.

"It is the belief of James P. Hoffa that O'Brien was instrumental and a direct participant in disappearance of

Hoffa, and planning of events leading up to disappearance."

Agents also were given a note written by Hoffa that seemed to be his itinerary for Wednesday, July 30: "TG 2:30 Wed 14 Mile Tel Fox Rest Maple Road."

On Sunday morning, Aug. 3, other agents arrived at the Hoffa cottage to install equipment to monitor all calls. One agent was finishing a connection when he tapped into a conversation of Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer.

"No, I'm very surprised," she was saying about the G-men who had dogged her father for years. "Actually, they're very nice."

They were also very intense.

A Southfield real estate broker who had shaken Hoffa's hand in the Red Fox lot was visited at least nine times by the FBI in the first few weeks of the investigation. He said news accounts of Mafia involvement terrified him and he insists to this day on anonymity.

"I was afraid to turn the ignition on my car," he said. "It really got to me."

While the heat was on in Detroit, Chuckie O'Brien was in West Memphis, Ark., enjoying a brief reunion with his new bride. When federal investigators reached him, O'Brien agreed to talk, but wanted to meet on friendly turf.

So, a meeting was arranged for the afternoon of Aug. 6 at Teamsters headquarters on Trumbull in Detroit.

There, for the first time, investigators heard Chuckie's fish story and about the borrowing of Joey Giacalone's car. O'Brien also revealed that

after dropping off a salmon sent as a gift to Teamsters official Bobby Holmes, he had stopped by the Southfield Athletic Club to see Anthony Giacalone.

O'Brien said he stayed just briefly with Uncle Tony, leaving by 3 p.m. to beat rush hour traffic.

Agents were intrigued as O'Brien went on to mention his visit to Giacalone's condominium the day after Hoffa vanished, a dinner the next evening with the Giacalone family at the St. Clair Inn, and his Saturday visit with Uncle Tony back at the club.

How could Chuckie so nonchalantly socialize with a man publicly implicated in the Hoffa case?

"It was personal time," O'Brien would explain years later. "We were almost family."

He said "Dad and Uncle Tony" — as O'Brien referred to Hoffa and Anthony Giacalone — would never meet anywhere so public as the Red Fox. For two such well-known figures, "it'd be like meeting on television on the Channel 7 News," he said.

O'Brien characterized his supposed falling out with Hoffa and Hoffa's reported feud with mob-connected New Jersey Teamster Anthony (Tony Pro) Provenzano as "all just newspaper talk."

O'Brien said he had been in the Memphis area since leaving Detroit three days earlier. He neglected to mention a stop at Teamsters headquarters in Washington for a meeting with Fitzsimmons.

Bloomfield Township Lt. Curt Grennier said the session left him feeling that a strong O'Brien was trying to hoodwink the police.

"It was like he was saying 'Ask me any question you want, but you're not going to learn a whole lot,'" Grennier said. "We kept pressing and pressing. ... We were pretty sure that he wasn't telling us everything, not that he was lying, but he wasn't divulging some things."

As the detectives left Teamsters headquarters on Trumbull near Tiger Stadium, they were mobbed by reporters and cameramen who followed them down the sidewalk. But the police weren't talking.

Then a reporter spotted O'Brien leaving the building, and, almost as one, the media pack descended on him. A reporter who was standing the wrong way got a TV cord wrapped around his neck and was dragged half-way down the block.

The police huddled afterward to review the three-hour O'Brien interview. They compiled a list of problems:

- On the day Hoffa vanished, O'Brien could not account for his time from about 2:30 until 4 p.m., when he was back at his office. That period was critical in the Hoffa disappearance.
- O'Brien claimed he was at the Southfield Athletic Club at 2 p.m. that day, but no one saw him there.
- He said he was waiting for a ride to work as usual at 8 a.m. July 31, less than 100 feet from the Red Fox lot where Hoffa's abandoned car sat, but claimed he never noticed it.
- He claimed he heard of the disappearance on the morning of July 31 and it enraged him. But others said O'Brien was told around 2 p.m. that day and waited about 20 minutes before making some telephone inquiries.

He said he was on good terms with both Jimmy Hoffa and son James, but everyone else seemed to know otherwise.

After he left the Teamsters offices, O'Brien called the Hoffa home. Police were eavesdropping, as usual.

"I told them the truth," O'Brien told James Hoffa.

"I want you to take a polygraph," Hoffa told him.

"I'll have to talk to my lawyer about that one," O'Brien said.

Young Hoffa hung up on him.

By the end of the day, as O'Brien headed back to Memphis and his bride, the FBI had formulated its first working theory of the case:

Hoffa met Anthony Giacalone's brother, Vito (Billy Jack) Giacalone, at the Red Fox, and they drove toward the Southfield Athletic Club. But "a hit man was waiting at a select spot and either shot or strangled Hoffa."

But the Giacalones weren't volunteering anything. Grand jury subpoenas produced nothing but a string of nonanswers.

And authorities still had no one credible who saw Hoffa leave the Red Fox lot — until the call from a man who would be known only by one of the code numbers the FBI assigns informants: DE 7223-PCI.

The secret witness told FBI agents he saw Jimmy Hoffa get into a black Lincoln with two men.

Under questioning by agents, he refined it to a maroon car, and insisted it was driven by Chuckie O'Brien. The color maroon was key. Few people knew that O'Brien had told investigators about borrowing Joey Giacalone's new maroon Mercury the day Hoffa vanished. The Mercury also had the long, boxy look of a Lincoln.

The informant was given a lie detector test.

The results were teletyped immediately to FBI Director Clarence Kelly:

"It was concluded that DE 7223-PCI was not truthful."

But the witness was insistent, signing a sworn statement. Another test was given, this time concluding: "Possible deception."

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HOFFA

THE SECRET FILES



HOFFA, from Page 5A

Agents took DE 7223-PCI back to the Red Fox lot, and he pointed out the wrong spot when asked where Hoffa's car had been that day.

But at least one agent who was on the case said the informant remained "a very believable guy."

"He came up with the story on the maroon car, and we thought it was a pretty secret piece of information. We didn't realize that it had appeared in a newspaper article somewhere, very obliquely. ... We had every reason to believe him. So we did."

The FBI set up a meeting for the informant with Robert Ozer, head of the federal strike force in Detroit working on a grand jury investigation of Hoffa.

DE 7223-PCI told his story yet again.

"This is almost too good to be true," an agent said.

Then DE 7223-PCI added a postscript.

"I'm just trying to help you guys out," he said. "God told me to do this."

The man said his knowledge of Hoffa's abduction had come in a vision sent by God.

Investigators were crushed.

"We felt like idiots," said one FBI agent. "Oh, God, that was a downer."

'Nothing to gain'

New Jersey state police, meanwhile, had tracked Anthony Provenzano down at the Franklin Diner on Route 17 in Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., where Sgt. Jim Sweeney of the intelligence bureau conducted an interview.

Hoffa had told several people that he expected Tony Pro to be with Anthony Giacalone at the July 30th meeting.

Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters official and ex-convict with reputed underworld ties, told Sweeney he was a close friend of both Jimmy Hoffa and Frank Fitzsimmons and would have "nothing to gain" by Hoffa's disappearance.

Provenzano said he and Hoffa were inseparable in prison, even ate most of their meals together, but had not seen each other since their release.

"He's my type of man," Provenzano said. "Aggressive and hard working."

Provenzano speculated that the only people who stood to benefit from Hoffa's death were his family, who would get insurance money, and black Teamsters, who could make a play for union power with Hoffa out of the way.

On the afternoon of the supposed meeting, Provenzano said he was playing cards at his New Jersey union hall with his brother Salvatore and a pal, Stephen Andretta.

Back in Detroit, authorities obtained a search warrant for Joey Giacalone's 1975 maroon Mercury Brougham, the car O'Brien had borrowed. It was seized Aug. 9 at 2 a.m. from Giacalone's St. Clair Shores condominium.

Preliminary tests showed no sign of human blood on the seats or in the trunk of the car. But numerous hair samples and unknown microscopic particles were taken, as well as several fingerprints.

In the trunk, agents found a Remington Wingmaster model 870 .12-gauge pump shotgun, serial number T056008V. The gun had a black pistol-type grip, an extra-long tube with room for additional shells, and a metal folding stock on which was stamped "For Law Enforcement Only."

Joey Giacalone readily admitted the shotgun belonged to him. Agents confirmed that he bought it on March 17, 1975, at Peter's Gun Shop in Roseville. Agents also found an empty black pistol holster under the front passenger seat. In the glove box were numerous rounds of .38-caliber bullets, several .22-caliber Magnum rounds, a handkerchief and a shirt.

In all, agents collected enough evidence to fill two cartons — each measuring three feet by three feet by three inches — for shipment to FBI labs.

Later, FBI technicians would go over every speck, nit, thread or hair found inside the car. One "single, three-inch brown head hair" from the car had "characteristics similar" to Hoffa's hair, and may have had blood on it.

Three trained tracking dogs, two of them brought in from Philadelphia, picked up Hoffa's scent in the backseat of the Mercury.

But none of it added up to a case against anyone, and the investigation began taking some strange turns as tips continued to pour in.

On Aug. 11, police and FBI agents searched a 100-acre gravel pit owned by Jimmy Hoffa's brother William near Highland on the Oakland-Livingston county border. Later, infrared photos of the pit were taken from a military plane, but there was no sign of a body or disturbed earth to mark a grave.

On Aug. 12, James Hoffa received a ransom letter demanding \$1 million in small bills.

"If law is around, good-bye James Riddle Hoffa," the note read. "We send back nuts, not ears. He is already wounded. We had to cut him up a bit." The note, signed Queen Liz, directed Hoffa to deliver the money to the 711 Bar on Michigan in downtown Detroit at 2 p.m. on Aug. 19.

He didn't go. No one else showed up, either, except police.

The FBI decided it was time to talk again with O'Brien, but an agent let slip on Aug. 17 that no one seemed to know where he was.

Headlines and TV news screamed for a day that a key witness in the Hoffa case had vanished. O'Brien's son saw an NBC news account in West Memphis, Ark., and turned to his father.

"Dad," he said, "you're missing."

The next day, O'Brien left his wife again to fly into Detroit for what he expected to be a nice, quiet interview. Instead, the Metro Airport gate area was packed wall to wall with reporters and photographers, yelling questions and fighting for position.

"It was insane," O'Brien said. "The FBI went and leaked this, and you wouldn't believe it there. It was insane."

This session was conducted in a police office at the airport, and agents tried to pin Chuckie down about the car, the fish, the club and just when he had gone where.

Disharmonies kept cropping up.

O'Brien now said he had spoken to Anthony Giacalone the night before Hoffa vanished, and Uncle Tony said he was going to spend the whole afternoon of July 30th at the Southfield Athletic Club.

O'Brien added details about his own brief meeting that day with Giacalone, saying Uncle Tony had given him two \$100 bills as graduation presents for O'Brien's children.

And O'Brien said he left the club at 3:15 p.m. — later than he'd claimed before.

O'Brien finally gave the agents a timetable, ticking off what he had done that day and when. It did not at all match the story he had just told.

But above all, O'Brien was adamant that Hoffa was not in the maroon Mercury that day.

"Never," he insists to this day. "If he was in there, you might just as well put Hitler in there, too. No way was he in there."

"I loved the Old Man," O'Brien said, and he left town again.

A few days later, FBI agents tried to duplicate Chuckie's movements of July 30. No matter how many times they ran through his timetable, they always came up with 60-90 minutes of extra time.

In late August, the FBI laid out a startling scenario to get a search warrant for Central Sanitation Services, an industrial waste disposal firm in Hamtramck owned in part by Raffael (Jimmy Q) Quasarano.

In a sealed affidavit filed to get the warrant, agents said they had been told by two FBI informants that Hoffa's body was "totally destroyed" by the disposal company's commercial size shredders, compactors and incinerators. One said 10 other gangland victims had gone the same way.

According to the affidavit, Teamster President Fitzsimmons had made an unusual, solitary trip to Detroit the weekend before Hoffa disappeared and secretly met with Quasarano at Larcoc's Inn on West McNichols.

The affidavit noted that rather than using any of the luxury autos available from the union in Detroit, Fitzsimmons got around during his visit in a car borrowed from Ron Roxburgh, Central Sanitation's president.

Fitzsimmons acknowledged the Detroit visit to the FBI, but denied meeting with Quasarano and Vitale, the affidavit said.

The bureau got its warrant and the FBI took trained dogs into the plant to hunt for any scent of Hoffa. Nothing was found.

Central Sanitation was destroyed by fire in 1978. Part of its property is now occupied by the new Wayne County Jail in Hamtramck.

Everybody searches a field

On Sept. 26, 1975, some reporters covering the Hoffa disappearance were told about a tremendous break coming the next day — so secret even the FBI didn't know.

Seems a one-time FBI informant from California with loose Teamsters connections had told U.S. Labor Department investigators and U.S. Sen. Henry (Scoop) Jackson, D-Wash., that Hoffa's body was buried in a field in Waterford Township.

Jackson decided to bypass the FBI with his information, relaying it instead to Michigan Gov. William Milliken, the state police, and Attorney General Frank Kelley. Plans were made to search the field on Sept. 27, a Saturday, and, of course, word leaked out, but nobody knew how far.

Ralph Orr, Free Press labor writer at the time, recalled that the newspaper got one of the leaks and thought it had the story to itself. Editors convened a midnight meeting in the newsroom to parcel out assignments for what surely would be the scoop of the century.

Shortly before dawn, Free Press reporters reached the rendezvous point where state police detectives had gathered. So did dozens of other reporters and camera crews — enough to form a strange caravan en route to the field, complete with backhoes.

Quarles, the Bloomfield detective, made sure he was clad for the expedition from head to toe, lest poison ivy be lurking.

Attorney General Kelley insisted on being present for the search and Michigan State Police Detective Sgt. Joseph Koenig picked him up at Oakland Pontiac Airport. Kelley arrived at 5 a.m. wearing tennis clothes and carrying a racket.

Someone from the state police decided to call Assistant Oakland County Prosecutor Richard Thompson, since if anything was found, the local office would probably handle criminal charges. Thompson called his boss, L. Brooks Patterson, to let him know Frank Kelley was working his turf.

"Although we weren't officially invited," Thompson said, "we decided to go. ... When we got there, it was like a big circus. This huge field was cordoned off, helicopters from the TV stations were flying all over, people were selling hot dogs and popcorn along the side of the road."

The circus went on for two days, and private citizens kept looking afterward, especially with Hoffa's family posting a \$200,000 reward for information.

But the field never yielded anything except dirt.

In October, Koenig, and FBI agents Jim Esposito and Bob Garrity took off after another tip: Hoffa's body was at the bottom of a swimming pool behind a Bloomfield Hills mansion near Turtle Lake.

The owner of the mansion couldn't be reached to give police permission to cross his property, so the three investigators borrowed a canoe and paddled across a swamp to the site described by the tipster.

The pool house had been abandoned years before, and the pool inside was empty. The cops poked around for a few minutes, but their hopes sank and they began paddling back.

On the way, their borrowed canoe sprung a leak and sank; too. In their suits, the investigators sloshed their way back to dry land.

The weeks were beginning to pile into months. The investigators plodded on, but they also realized that crimes of violence are usually solved within days — or not at all. And they didn't even have a body yet.

1,000 talks with lawyer

Ralph Picardo, a former Teamster in Anthony Provenzano's New Jersey Local 560, contacted federal agents on Nov. 5 from the East coast prison where he was serving a murder sentence.

Picardo said he had been visited by two of his many mutual friends with Provenzano, brothers Stephen and Thomas Andretta. He said Stephen had indirectly let slip that Tony Pro's outfit was involved in Hoffa's slaying, saying he had remained in New Jersey to provide Provenzano's card-playing alibi.

Based on Picardo's story, the FBI rushed after subpoenas to get the Andrettas and two of Provenzano's other top associates, brothers Gabriel and Salvatore (Sally Bugs) Briguglio, to Detroit for police lineups and grand jury questioning.

Stephen Andretta astounded court officials by leaving the grand jury room 1,000 times to confer with his lawyer, William Bufalino Sr. Bufalino handed out autographed footballs around the courthouse to mark the 1,000th time.

Andretta was finally jailed for contempt when he refused to testify even after being given immunity from prosecution. But he kept silent.

State Police Detective Koenig said he passed the time during a long wait prior to lineups at the Oakland County Jail by playing chess with Thompson, the assistant Oakland prosecutor.

He said he kept one eye on the four suspects from New Jersey, and was drawn repeatedly to the short, squat Salvatore Briguglio.

"You could see that his brain was in turmoil and he was having difficulty coping with it," Koenig said. "We all

agreed he'd be the one to focus on."

But with no hard evidence, they never got much of a chance.

On March 21, 1978, Sally Bugs was shot to death by two hooded gunmen at a restaurant in New York's Little Italy.

There was a flicker of hope about a case against Stephen Andretta in January 1976, when a previously silent witness told Bloomfield Township police he was sure he had seen Andretta at the Red Fox restaurant almost a month to the day before Hoffa vanished from its parking lot.

During his standoff with the grand jury, Andretta said he had never been in Michigan before. The witness said he recognized Andretta from news accounts and was certain Andretta was lying.

A businessman who did not want his name known, the witness said he was parked in an isolated section of the same lot on June 26, 1975, doing some paperwork, when a Lincoln or Cadillac, black over gray, parked in front of him.

The witness said a man who looked like Andretta walked from the car to the restaurant and back. He said the man noticed him in his car and walked over.

"What are you doing?" he asked the businessman.

"Don't I know you?" the businessman replied.

"No, I don't think we ever met," the man said, then glanced at the businessman's paperwork and walked back to his car.

It was intriguing information, but useless unless the businessman was willing to testify before a grand jury. He never did.

Another lead to nowhere.

The most popular solution

Based on information that was good, but not good enough, the FBI eventually refined its theory of the case, as outlined in a January 1976 memo called HOFFEX. It remains the most agreed-upon scenario of what happened to Jimmy Hoffa:

In the Red Fox lot, Hoffa got into Joey Giacalone's car, driven by Chuckie O'Brien, who had borrowed it earlier to deliver a fish.

Hoffa believed he would be taken to a meeting with Anthony Provenzano and Anthony Giacalone to smooth out problems between Hoffa and Tony Pro.

In reality, it was a setup for an assassination carried out by New Jersey Teamsters close to Provenzano — Thomas Andretta and the Briguglio brothers, Gabriel and Salvatore.

The mob wanted to keep Hoffa from getting back in the union and clamping down on the mob's easy access to union pension funds during the presidency of Frank Fitzsimmons.

The killing was probably quick, and the body most likely destroyed not far from the murder site, somewhere in the Detroit area.

Investigators and others involved in the case say the murder probably was authorized at the highest levels of organized crime, which did not foresee all the pressure it would generate on its operations.

The HOFFEX theory was somewhat substantiated by later discoveries: records of telephone calls from Provenzano's Teamsters local to O'Brien's home number several weeks before Hoffa vanished.

The same number was found on a slip of paper at the home of Salvatore Briguglio in Paramus, N.J., when FBI agents arrived to search it the day after he was slain.

"Don't you guys ever quit?" Briguglio's son asked when the family's mourning was disrupted by the FBI search.

Charles (Chuckie) O'Brien has his own theory about Hoffa: The government killed him as an excuse to delve into the powerful Teamsters and left Chuckie to be the fall guy.

"It got so crazy," said O'Brien, who spent 10 months in prison in 1979 for a labor law violation and falsifying a loan application. "People saying they saw this and people saying they saw that. It just made me crazy."

"There's no way there was a meeting with Tony Giacalone or Tony Provenzano, and I don't care what anybody says. It just never happened that way. ... I'd have to be an insane maniac to use Joey's car and take Mr. Hoffa."

Although many of the key figures have died or gone to prison for various crimes, the FBI still regards the Hoffa case as open. The bureau used the case as a springboard for a series of other investigations that struck deep into organized crime and led to government control of the Teamsters.

"Hoffa was never found, but you have to balance the fact that the massive resources devoted to it paid off in the end," said Koenig, the top state police member of the Hoffa investigative team. "There were a number of cases ... where there were convictions and people put in jail, putting really kind of a damper on mob activity in the Detroit area for many years."

That doesn't make James Hoffa feel much better about his father's fate.

"What amazes me with all the informants the FBI has, all the supposedly bad guys who have turned over over the years, that they've never been able to come up with anyone who has said, 'Oh, by the way, let me tell you about Mr. Hoffa,'" he said.

"And now after 17 years, I really don't think they're going to solve it. It makes me real sad that's not going to happen."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Hoffa's children want FBI to open up

BY JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writer

The FBI is convinced it knows who killed Jimmy Hoffa, how and why.

But the answers are locked away in cabinets jammed with thousands of documents, reports and memoranda — and the FBI isn't talking about the case agents dubbed "HOFFEX," bureaucratic shorthand for Hoffa-Extortion.

Hoffa's children — Barbara Crancer and James P. Hoffa — believe it is time to open those files.

"There is no reason not to," said Crancer, a labor lawyer when her father vanished and now a circuit judge in St. Louis. "We're ready to deal with whatever's in there."

Crancer filed a Freedom of Information request for the files in 1987, and followed up in 1990 with a lawsuit to open HOFFEX. The Free Press has filed a similar suit seeking access to the documents.

In both cases, the FBI is arguing that the Hoffa case is still an open investigation, with possible arrests and prosecution in jeopardy if its evidence is made public.

Crancer gained one victory when a federal judge ordered the government to compile an index of all its documents so a determination could be made of what might be too sensitive to release and what could reasonably be made public. But the government is in a second stage of appealing that ruling, and Crancer has yet to see such an index.

In the Free Press case, U.S. District Judge George LaPlata in Ann Arbor reviewed docu-

"Even if we do win on principle, I'm sure they are going to fight us about everything ... every page in the file cabinet. I could see it taking 20 or 30 years, but I'm willing to see it through."

Date: 12/20/92
Edition: The Detroit Free Press
5G

Title: HOFFEX

Character: 281A-DE-67821

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Detroit Division

Indexing:

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ments chosen and submitted to him by the FBI and decided in 1991 that the government was right, the files should remain closed.

LaPlata said that the case was not languishing and that the release of FBI information would allow suspects to destroy evidence, fabricate alibis or intimidate witnesses.

Free Press attorney Herschel Fink said LaPlata "set a terrible precedent" by basing his decision on the FBI's "handpicked documents."

"It's tantamount to allowing the government the power to police itself," he said. The Free Press is appealing the ruling.

Kenneth Walton, formerly the special agent in charge of the Detroit FBI office and now a congressional investigator, said the Hoffa case cannot be viewed in stark black-and-white terms.

"The case had been solved from a law enforcement viewpoint," he said. "But it is not solved from a prosecutorial standpoint."

Walton said that many of the witnesses who talked to the FBI would never repeat their stories in court, and some have since died.

Likewise, others gave solid but secondhand information that does not meet courtroom standards for evidence, he said.

And evidence notwithstanding, the files should remain closed to protect FBI informants and methods, Walton said.

Crancer, who inherited her father's bulldog determination, is unimpressed with the arguments and prepared for a long battle.

"Even if we do win on principle, I'm sure they are going to fight us about everything ... every page in the file cabinet," she said. "I could see it taking 20 or 30 years, but I'm willing to see it through."

"Why shouldn't we know what happened to our father?"

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8) (P) Date 1/15/93

From : SSA [REDACTED] b7c

Subject: CHANGED:

HOFFEX;
OC/DI - LCN - DETROIT FAMILY
(OO: DETROIT)

The title has been changed to comply with new Bureau guidelines set forth in Bureau airtel to All SACs dated 8/21/92. Title formerly carried as HOFFEX; RICO; OO: DETROIT.

JMF:brs
(1) *lmo*

281A-DE-67821-874

SEARCHED <i>fm</i>	INDEXED <i>fm</i>
SERIALIZED <i>fm</i>	FILED <i>fm</i>
JAN 19 1993	
FBI - DETROIT	
[Redacted]	

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Pages 1803 - 1809

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another individual about the
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Pages 1810-1811

*Third party records provided by a
Source with express Confidentiality -*

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18 USC, 2518(8) (b)(4) (b)(5) (b)(6)

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FBI/DOJ

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Open Hoffa files, lawyer argues

BY JOE SWICKARD
Free Press Staff Writer

CINCINNATI — The time has come to open the FBI files on "what some have called the crime of the century," a Free Press attorney said Tuesday, arguing for the release of FBI documents on the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa.

After more than 17 years, there is scant chance that the Hoffa investigation will result in any criminal prosecution that could be jeopardized by release of the files, Herschel Fink argued to the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

But government lawyer Scott McIntosh said the passage of time "doesn't mean there isn't going to be a prosecution. It doesn't mean that people won't come forward" as time eases fear of retribution.

Releasing the files could mean witness statements and other sensitive material falling into the hands of Hoffa's killers, McIntosh said.

No date was set for a ruling by the three-judge panel of David Nelson, Sandra Beckwith and Alice Batchelder that heard the case.

Observing the arguments was Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer, now a Circuit Court judge in St. Louis. She has her own suit pending to open the files.

"I want to know what the government knows about what happened to my father," Crancer said.

Hoffa disappeared in July 1975 after going to the Machus Red Fox

restaurant in Bloomfield Township for a meeting with reputed Mafia figure Anthony Giacalone and New Jersey Teamster boss and underworld associate Anthony Provenzano.

Investigators believe Hoffa was picked up outside the restaurant and killed. Despite a massive investigation, no trace of him has been found.

Authorities have said that they believe they know what happened and who is responsible, but cannot assemble an adequate case for charges.

In 1988, Oliver Revell, the FBI's executive assistant director of investigations, told a U.S. Senate panel that it is "doubtful at this point that we will ever have sufficient evidence" to bring anyone to trial.

In 1989, the Free Press sued for release of files under the Freedom of Information Act.

Last year, U.S. District Judge George LaPlata, after a private review of a summary file prepared by the FBI, ruled against the newspaper.

Arguing for the Free Press, Fink said LaPlata's decision should be overturned.

Fink said the FBI's claim of secrecy covering all its files was too broad and LaPlata's private review prevented him from testing the FBI's claim.

He also said the FBI files given to LaPlata were hand-picked to support the bureau position and not necessarily an accurate picture of the case's status.

However, McIntosh said that "no court has ever done what the Free Press is seeking" — released the files

DETROIT FREE PRESS

Date: 1/20/93
Edition: 3B

Title: HOFFA, JAMES RIDDEL

Character:

or
Classification: 281A-DE-67821
Submitting Office: DETROIT

Indexing:

"If the Detroit Free Press can get this information, then anyone can, including those responsible."

SCOTT MCINTOSH,
government lawyer

of an active investigation.

"If the Detroit Free Press can get this information, then anyone can, including those responsible," McIntosh said. "The impact of that on witnesses is obvious."

Fink said the key to keeping the files secret is the "concrete" possibility of prosecution, not merely labeling an investigation open or active.

281A-DE-67821-876

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SERIALIZED	FILED
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HOFFA, Page 1815

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Pages 1816-1818

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[REDACTED]/PRIORITY/ b7A/b7C

FBI PITTSBURGH/PRIORITY/

PT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3510//

67A
b7C
FAX: DE, SAC HELLETOFF; [REDACTED] SSRA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] EG, SSA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: HOFFEX, OQH, DETROIT.

OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS, THERE HAS BEEN RENEWED

PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JAMES R. HOFFA, A

RECENT MOVIE, TV APPEARANCE BY [REDACTED] RECENT BOOKS b7C

AND OTHER TV PROGRAMS HAVE BROUGHT SOME OF THIS ABOUT

WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF AD LARRY POTTS AT FBIHQ, AND SAC

281A-DE-67821-818

b7C

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SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 11 1993	
FBI - DETROIT	

PAGE TWO DE FBINK 0034 UNCLAS

DETROIT, SAC NEWARK HAS REQUESTED A MEETING TO BE HELD AT
NEWARK FOR THE FULL DAY ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1993, TO
FURTHER DISCUSS HOFFEX.

1 OF PARTICULAR CONCERN IS THE DESIRE TO UPDATE AGENTS ON
THE [REDACTED] AND TO FOCUS ON [REDACTED]

b7A/b7C

SAC, NEWARK WILL HAVE FOR ATTENDEES COPIES OF ALL RECENT
TV PROGRAMS AS WELL AS AN OCIS PRINT OUT OF PERTINENT
DATE/EVENTS.

b7K ATTENDEES REQUESTED TO ATTEND ARE FROM DETROIT: SAC IF

AVAILABLE, SUPERVISOR [REDACTED], CASE AGENTS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CURRENT HOFFEX AGENT AND [REDACTED] FROM

PITTSBURGH: SSA [REDACTED], FROM [REDACTED]

SSRA [REDACTED]

b7A/b7C

CONFERENCE ATTENDEES SHOULD CONTACT ASAC BRUCE GEBHARDT,

[REDACTED] CONCERNING THEIR ARRIVAL DETAILS AND ROOM

NEEDS. IT IS SUGGESTED ATTENDEES ARRIVE IN THE AFTERNOON ON

TUESDAY, 2/23/93. ROOMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE GATEWAY HILTON,

RATE \$87.00 FOR THE NIGHTS OF 2/23 AND 2/24/93. (THIS HOTEL

CONNECTED BY SKYWALK TO FBI OFFICE ON 22ND FLOOR OF GATEWAY

ONE, ATTENDEES WILL BE PICKED UP AT NEWARK AIRPORT.

PAGE THREE DE FBINK 6034 UNCLAS

SA [REDACTED] AND SA [REDACTED] NYO ADVISED

SEPARATELY OF MEETING.

SCHEDULE WILL BE 8:00 A.M. - 5 P.M., 2/24/93. // / 67C

DETROIT IS REQUESTED TO BRING FD-302'S AND EE PREPARED TO

DISCUSS THE INVESTIGATIVE RESULTS CONCERNING [REDACTED]

AND [REDACTED] AND ANY OTHER [REDACTED] RELATED

ASSOCIATES AS WELL AS INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED] 67C/67D

FOLLOWING THIS REVIEW SESSION, A DETAILED SUMMARY WILL BE
PREPARED FOR FBIHQ.

ITINERARY TELEPHONE NUMBERS, NEWARK FBI SWITCHBOARD (201)

622-5613, GATEWAY HILTON (201) 622-5000, AND NEWARK ASAC

GEGHARDY () [REDACTED] 67C

BI

#0034

NNNN

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8) (P) Date 2/26/93

From : SA [REDACTED]

Subject: HOFFEX;
(OO: DETROIT)

b7c

The following attachments were provided by SAC JAMES ESPOSITO, NEWARK, to the attendees at the HOFFA Conference in Newark, New Jersey, on February 24, 1993:

- A. SA [REDACTED], New York Office, case synopsis b7c
- B. Chronological sequence of events relating to the JAMES R. HOFFA investigation prepared by [REDACTED] Intelligence Analyst, Buffalo Strike Force
- C. ABC NEWS CLOSE-UP "HOFFA" broadcast on Saturday, November 30, 1974.

Additionally,

[REDACTED] which was given to SAs [REDACTED]
and [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] was placed 1-A as per
request of SA [REDACTED] and AUSA ROBERT STEWART via SA [REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

TMC:prs
(2) JES
Attachments

281A-DE-67821-879

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Pages 1823-1865

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1866-1877

Information contained in pages 1866-1877
 as well as the first half of page 1878 was
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Section 552

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Pages 1900 - 1910

Transcribed conversation between two individuals, one of whom allowed FBI to record the conversation.

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Section 552a

- (d)(5)
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Pages 1911 - 1915

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TELEPHONE TOLL RECORD INFORMATION

An examination of telephone toll records for telephones to which Anthony Provenzano and Anthony Giacalone have access reflects telephone toll traffic between these telephones on the following dates:

February 11, 1975, March 25, 1975, April 22, 1975,

April 28-30, 1975, May 2, 3, 31, and 23, 1975, June 17, 1975.

July 3, 1975, July 21, 1975 and July 22, 1975.

An examination of toll traffic between phones [REDACTED] to which Anthony Giacalone or [REDACTED], and James R. Hoffa had access reflects the following traffic: July 9, 1975, July 12, 1975, July 13, 1975. b7C

There is telephone traffic between IBT Local 560 and three Detroit IBT Locals on July 28, 1975; these telephone calls were placed in succession at 12:36 pm, 12:37 pm, and 12:37 pm. Examining the aggregate of telephone traffic, these calls are the only telephone calls placed from Local 560 to these locals in the many months of toll records examined.

CHRONOLOGICAL SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

RELATING TO THE

JAMES R. HOFFA INVESTIGATION

[REDACTED]
Intelligence Analyst
Buffalo Strike Force
March 14, 1978

hB

b7c

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- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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ABC NEWS CLOSE-UP

HOFFA

as broadcast over the
ABC TELEVISION NETWORK

Saturday, November 30, 1974

8:00-9:00 PM, EST

Produced and Directed by: Stephen Fleischman

Written by: Richard Gerdau

Reporters: Jim Kincaid
 Brit Hume
 Bill Gill

(c) 1974 American Broadcasting Company, Inc.
All Rights Reserved

HOFFA, Page 1991

TEASE

JIM KINCAID:

This is James Riddle Hoffa, former General President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters -- the largest trade union in the world -- a union he ruled for fourteen years.

Hoffa went to prison on March 7, 1967 -- a convicted felon for jury tampering, fraud and conspiracy involving misuse of union pension funds.

Although the Supreme Court upheld the lower court's decision, Chief Justice Earl Warren, dissenting from the majority, called Hoffa's trial an "affront to the quality and fairness of federal law enforcement." Why?

On December 23, 1971, after serving almost five years, Hoffa was released from prison under a commutation from former President Nixon -- but his release contained a restriction which bars Hoffa from union affairs until 1980. Why?

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

The power remains with me as the president, and the executive board of this international union.

JIM KINCAID:

This is Frank Fitzsimmons, current General President of the Teamsters -- Hoffa's hand-picked successor. They worked together for 40 years, but last June, Fitzsimmons said Hoffa has no place in the labor movement. Why?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

They took Fitzsimmons up to the mountain and showed him the valley and he brought the valley, and he forgot his friends ... forgot where he came from. After forty years he forgot who took him off of a truck and who put him into an executive position. And then he double-crossed me. It's very simple.

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

I've never forgot a friend in all my life. In fact, it's just quite the opposite. If Mr. Hoffa will recount his activities against me, such as charges brought against me, charges that I double-crossed him.. He knows in his heart he's a liar.

445 MEETING:

(GAVEL BANGS MEETING TO ORDER)

I can't hear, brother Davis. I'd like to really hear it.

JIM KINCAID:

Today loyalties are divided between Hoffa and Fitzsimmons. And the fighting within Teamster locals threatens to split the union.

NEILL HARRIS:

He's still leading me. What the hell happened to you?

(CLAPPING, SHOUTING, BANGING)

JIM KINCAID:

While claiming to be a champion of the rank and file, Hoffa also contends that trade unions cannot survive without a working relationship with hoodlums and gangsters. Why?

ROBERT KENNEDY:

Did you say "That S.O.B. I'll break his back."

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Who?

ROBERT KENNEDY:

You. Well, whose back were you going to break, Mr. Hoffa?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Figure of speech, I don't even know who I was talking about, and I don't know what you're talking about.

JIM KINCAID:

Once Hoffa was in prison and out of power, the Teamsters were supposedly cleaned up. But today, after three years without Hoffa, charges of corruption and scandal still confront the union. Why?

In the next hour this investigative biography is going to re-examine Hoffa and the Teamsters -- their successes -- and their scandals.

PART I

JIM KINCAID:

This is Detroit, Michigan. In 1974, it is one of the most highly unionized cities in America. Forty years ago, workers died on these streets trying to organize unions. In that struggle, Jimmy Hoffa began a career which was to make him one of the most controversial figures in all of labor.

The story of Jimmy Hoffa reveals much about the use of power, the influence of corruption, and their connection in America today.

The man who controls the Teamsters is one of the most powerful men in America. A Teamster strike can ruin a business, cripple a city, weaken the nation. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America controls everything that moves on wheels -- and more.

With a membership of over two million, the Teamster ranks are filled not only with truck drivers and warehousemen but with policemen, secretaries, salesmen, ambulance drivers, photo-processors, dairy, brewery and farm workers. Their own work stoppages can be devastating and many other union strikes cannot be won without Teamster support.

But the influence of this largest American trade union goes far beyond the collective bargaining power of its members. The more than a billion dollars controlled by their pension and welfare funds have spread Teamster power over a vast financial network.

(MORE)

HOFFA, Page 1995

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

In Las Vegas and other cities around the country, Teamster loans have built hotels, country clubs, even newspapers.

For fourteen of the union's most important years, from 1957 through 1971, that enormous power was in the hands of James Riddle Hoffa. Hoffa began in the Teamsters in the early 1930's here at Local 299 in Detroit. Today Hoffa is playing a waiting game.

TEAMSTER OUTSIDE 299:

... like to talk to you sometime. Can I have an address where I ...
how to find you ...

JAMES R. HOFFA:

No. Because I can't talk union business.

2ND TEAMSTER:

How do you feel? How come you're not ...

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Can't talk union business...

ANNOUNCER:

Document: a restriction on Hoffa's commutation. "Richard Nixon ... commuted the combined consecutive sentences ... upon the condition that the said James R. Hoffa not engage in direct or indirect management of any labor organization prior to March 6, 1980..."

JIM KINCAID:

Hoffa is now fighting to lift the restriction and re-enter the union.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Well, this is the building we built when we moved from Trumble and Port Street in 1939. We moved in here in '40 and we borrowed the money to build it. Then we built a building across the street over there, and then we came across to build the Health, Welfare and Pension building over here. And I was the architect of all of these buildings. And it irritates me, the fact that under my restriction -- of the indirect and direct -- I can't go in there and talk to people I've known for 20, 30 years. And, here is a group of rank and file people apparently ready for a meeting (BACKGROUND CHEERS AND CALLS "MR. HOFFA.") and they want to talk to me and here all I can do is talk social. I can't talk union. Hello. How are you?

TEAMSTER:

You look younger. You look younger and younger.

2ND TEAMSTER:

You look good, Jimmy.

3RD TEAMSTER:

We need you, brother.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

How are you?

TEAMSTER:

Doesn't he look great?

2ND TEAMSTER:

Hey, Jim ...

JIM KINCAID:

Many think if Hoffa is allowed to run for union office he can win. For if Hoffa has used the rank and file as his power base, he has also given them one of the highest standards of living of any union in America. And many still love him for it.

BIG TEAMSTER AT 299:

They might call me a queer, but I'm going to kiss you like my mother ... That's how much I love ya ...

(LAUGHTER. APPLAUSE)

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Take care men, okay.

The reason I want to get back in the labor movement -- even though I can retire, be in Florida in the winter, the lake in the summer, up in the camp if I wanted to -- is very simple. I've been in it all my life. It's my life the way I lived it, the way I want to live it, and I see the big fight coming.

JIM KINCAID:

At the Teamster's International Headquarters, located two blocks from the Capitol building in Washington, ABC News reporter Bill Gill spoke with Frank E. Fitzsimmons, the union's General President since 1971.

BILL GILL:

You declared that Jimmy Hoffa should not be a part of organized labor. What did you mean by that?

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

I say he shouldn't have, should never be back in organized labor. And I say that, as far as I am concerned, Mr. Hoffa is the best person to answer that question. If Mr. Hoffa considers his actions and his behavior while he was in organized labor, I'm sure that, again, if he gives a truthful answer, he will agree with me.

JIM KINCAID:

Hoffa's actions and behavior, both in and out of labor, reveal a man of startling contrasts. What kind of a man is Jimmy Hoffa?

A champion of the working man, Hoffa is also an alleged friend of the mob. A charismatic charmer, he is also a merciless bargainer who has negotiated contracts in plush corporation offices and in brutal street brawls.

(MORE)

HOFFA, Page 1999

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

A pragmatist in every way, Hoffa has always been a tireless worker for the benefit of his rank and file and yet, he's been convicted for lining his own pockets through the abuse of their pension funds. Hoffa is a sentimental family man who wouldn't fire an incompetent subordinate if the man had a family to support, and yet, Hoffa is also a ruthless fighter for power who has let little stand in his way.

A union organizer since he was a teenager, Hoffa grew up with the labor movement in this country, and his ideas and tactics were formed in the crucible of violence that was labor's early history.

In 1931 at the age of 18, Hoffa organized the loading dock at this Detroit warehouse.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

And, the strike breakers came along and every morning on this very street the police used to join hands and run them down through a layer of police to get them into these, these doors here. And every day we had a riot.

JIM KINCAID:

Hoffa learned early that trade unions in America were forced to fight for survival with bargaining, boycotts and blood.

Frequently union violence was provoked by industry and government's use of force, exemplified in 1937 when Chicago police killed ten striking steelworkers in a bloody labor history landmark, the Memorial Day Massacre. Early union organizers risked not only their jobs, but their lives.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Nobody can describe the sitdown strikes, the riots, the fights that took place in the state of Michigan particularly here in Detroit, unless they were part of it.

JIM KINCAID:

Labor journalist, A. H. Raskin, of the New York Times.

ABE RASKIN:

There was no question that the largest and most respectable, quote-unquote, respectable corporations in the country did very deliberately and at great cost, set up what were in effect private armies whose sole function was to make sure that the unions didn't get anywhere in their plants.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

And if they found out that you were, even passed out literature or talking union, you were subject to getting your skull broke ...

When the IWW went in and the Garment Workers and Textile Workers went into New Jersey, went into New York, the armed police, the goons, the muscle men did the same thing there they did here.

JIM KINCAID:

Like all major unions, the Teamsters are no strangers to violence. In 1934 a Teamster work stoppage in Minneapolis resulted in a hostile 10-day armed conflict with police and 3,000 National Guard troops. A look at early Teamster history provides a better understanding of how Hoffa's ideas on the labor struggle were formed.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

In 1934 they had nothing to lose except the fact they may lose their life and that wasn't worth much at that time because they couldn't do nothing with their life. And when you listen to a man like Vince Dunne or Ray Dunne talk or Farrell Dobbs talk.

FARRELL DOBBS:

One of the outstanding things is not only the courage but the resourcefulness that a body of workers show when they're in a mood to fight and they have leaders that are willing to lead them into a fight.

JIM KINCAID:

Farrell Dobbs, now 67, a Teamster organizer at the time, recalls the days when he, Vince, Grant and Miles Dunne led the violent but successful 1934 Minneapolis strike.

FARRELL DOBBS:

We came to battle ... The battle focused in the market district in Minneapolis, the wholesale produce market district in Minneapolis. And we fought it out there club to club ... And the result was that we were able to fight the cops to a draw and they had to negotiate a settlement with us.

JIM KINCAID:

His relationship with Farrell Dobbs was the beginning of an important chapter in Hoffa's life. Dobbs and the Dunne brothers were aligned with the labor movement's idealistic and politically motivated left wing, and they had a strong influence on the young Jimmy Hoffa.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Farrell kept preaching the fact that nobody could, in the future, nobody would be able to win in their own town or their own state, but had to have expanded coverage for the entire transportation, warehousing and food industry. I realized how right he was and it had an impact on my mind as to the fact that you could no longer live, no matter how well-organized, in a particular city or state.

FARRELL DOBBS:

In the Midwest we concentrated on a uniform contract for the whole eleven state area where we had organized the workers ... Hoffa was definitely a member of the leadership team.

JIM KINCAID:

By the end of the 1930's, Dobbs had made the Midwest a Teamster stronghold. Dobbs is responsible for the concept of area-wide bargaining -- the idea of getting regional and then national contracts. Hoffa later used Dobbs' idea in developing the National Master Freight Agreement.

(MORE)

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

Dan Tobin, the General President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters at that time, was a close friend of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

With war beginning in Europe, Tobin ordered Hoffa to get rid of Farrell Dobbs and the Dunne brothers. President Roosevelt did not want socialists in powerful labor positions during wartime.

Although Hoffa's idealism toward the working-class struggle made him respect Dobbs, Hoffa's pragmatism in his fight for power led to his betrayal of Dobbs.

Viewed today this can be interpreted as a turning point in Hoffa's career. For if he had learned much from Dobbs, Hoffa learned another lesson in power from Dan Tobin.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

I think that he used our relationship because I had refused to go on a request, or on an order. When he ordered me to go to Minneapolis, I said I wouldn't go and it was none of my business. And then he put it on a personal basis, as a request, and brought up what he'd done for me and so forth, and what he was gonna do for me. And once the old man made up a personal request at his age, you couldn't very well turn him down. Recognizing he was the General President, I went there... Went into Minneapolis, went over, took over the office, brought in a hundred crack guys, had the war. We won every battle.

(MORE)

JAMES R. HOFFA: (CONT)

And we finally took the union over and then Farrell left and went with the Socialist Party.

FARRELL DOBBS:

Now it is true that Hoffa was among the IBT Goon Squads that Tobin sent into Minneapolis against Local 544 in 1941. That's actually true. But he says, he says in effect there he whipped us. Now it's a little more complicated than that. He got just a little help if he thinks he whipped us. For instance, he was helped by the Minneapolis Police Department, the courts of the city, the county, and the state ... the mayor, the governor and an anti-labor law that had been rigged and put through by the Republican governor of the state, and by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Department of Justice and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who then happened to be President of the United States ... Under those circumstances you got to admit Hoffa had just a little help, didn't he? The man exaggerates on this point. He exaggerates.

JIM KINCAID:

Hoffa's fast and determined rise to power began -- many think -- with the betrayal of Farrell Dobbs and the takeover of the rebellious Minneapolis local.

(MORE)

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

Dave Beck, who was elected General President of the International in 1952, took over a position he could not have achieved without Hoffa's support. But again, Hoffa has been accused of later trying to eliminate Beck by arranging in 1957 to feed information on Beck to a Senate subcommittee beginning hearings on corrupt union practices. Beck was later convicted of grand larceny and tax evasion and spent two and one half years in prison.

With Beck out of the way, Hoffa became General President of the Teamsters in 1957, climaxing a rise to power which would escalate contract benefits for the working teamster and, at the same time, plunge the union into corruption and scandal from which it has not yet recovered.

(CHANTING ... "WE WANT HOFFA.")

PART II

JIM KINCAID:

If Jimmy Hoffa is the end product of the violence and corruption that have marked the history of America's labor movement, then he is also a symbol of labor's victories and its power. For labor is an arena where corruption and idealism are part of the same tradition. And labor journalist John Herling says of Hoffa:

JOHN HERLING:

The interesting thing about Jimmy Hoffa is that he could have done a hell of a job for his people without being involved in corruption, that's the important thing. But remember that corruption is not, you see, was not just characteristic of labor. It takes two to tango. It was the employer who bought off the union leader. That's where the corruption was, and that's how the corruption began and that's how the violence began, when they hired thugs of all kinds.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Now, when you talk about the question of hoodlums and gangsters, the first people that hire hoodlums and gangsters are employers. If there is any illegal forces in the community, he'll use 'em -- strong arm or otherwise. And so if you're going to stay in business of organizing the unorganized, maintaining the union you have, then you better have a resistance.

JIM KINCAID:

Jimmy Hoffa built the resistance he thought necessary from forces on both sides of the law. And soon after Hoffa took control of the International in 1957, he was forced to defend himself and his associations against charges of gangsterism and racketeering in a series of hearings led by Senator John McClellan and the committee's chief counsel, Robert Kennedy.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

Is he a close friend of yours?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

I knew Joe Holtzman.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

He was a close friend of yours?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

I knew Joe Holtzman.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

He was a close friend of yours?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Now, just a moment ... I knew Joe Holtzman; he wasn't any particular friend of mine.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Bobby Kennedy liked to roll off names -- Cockeyed Dunne, of Sleazy Joe or the Bug, Tony Ducks, Johnny Dioguardia -- and he'd go on and on and on and he wanted to attach 'em to us.

JOHN DIOGUARDI:

John Dioguardi, 109 Freeport Avenue, Point Lookout, age 43.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Bobby Kennedy was the creator of the Johnny Dio and the Tony Ducks alleged association with Jimmy Hoffa ... But again, as I say, Johnny Dio and Tony Ducks were two people in New York who you should know if you're avoid, gonna avoid having anybody interfere with your strike. And that's what we knew 'em for.

JIM KINCAID:

So you had to deal with them in telling them to lay off.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

I think more or less not telling 'em -- you can't tell those kind of people nothing -- I think more or less you develop a relationship with 'em to where you don't interfere with their business and they don't interfere with your business ... I can pick up the phone in Detroit and call anybody and I can talk to and have a meeting with them and I'll probably prevail upon 'em not to become involved in breaking anything, any of our strikes here.

(MORE)

HOFFA, Page 2009

JAMES R. HOFFA: (CONT)

But, at the same time, that don't mean they control or run the union ... So when people talk about who do you know. We make it our business -- and a man who's a head of a union's a fool if he don't -- to know who are your potential enemies and how can you neutralize 'em. And if you neutralize 'em, then you're successful. If you don't, then ultimately they will bankrupt the richest union by keep constantly harassing you, by using strike breakers in your strikes.

JIM KINCAID:

There are those who disagree with Hoffa's methods. ABC News reporter Brit Hume spoke with labor journalist and historian John Herling.

BRIT HUME:

One of the points that Jimmy Hoffa has made very strongly in his own defense is that in order to survive, labor unions must develop a working relationship with hoodlums and gangsters in some instances.

JOHN HERLING:

That's an outrageous idea. It's an outrageous idea. It strikes me as being self-serving. He's trying to defend his own operation and out of his own mouth he's trying to, he's admitting what many people said he was doing. But, it does little good to the labor movement.

JIM KINCAID:

When all the evidence was in, the McClellan Committee hearings had implicated corporation managements as well as labor leaders.

(MORE)

HOFFA, Page 2010

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

Two prominent members of the subcommittee moved into the national spotlight and the highest offices in the land. Soon after John F. Kennedy became President in 1960 his brother Robert was appointed Attorney General and continued a bitter ten-year struggle to put Hoffa behind bars.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Watergate was tame to what the "get-Hoffa-squad" and the Kennedy was during the McClellan hearings ... From nineteen hundred and fifty-five to nineteen hundred and sixty-five, I was under constant surveillance of the FBI, under constant surveillance from the time I would get on an airplane to the time I got off the airplane, arrive down to my office, as Walter Sheridan said, I knew every minute of 24 hours a day what Hoffa was doing ... And he brags about it in his book. If you read the book of Walter Sheridan.

JIM KINCAID:

Did you ever get to meet Sheridan?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

I know Sheridan. A sleazy rat; a slimy, sleazy rat.

JIM KINCAID:

Walter Sheridan -- special investigator in Robert Kennedy's justice department -- wrote a 537 page book on Hoffa.

(MORE)

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

Mr. Sheridan declined the opportunity to appear on this program to answer charges made against him by Mr. Hoffa.

But another member of the so-called "get-Hoffa-squad" did appear. Attorney James Neal.

BRIT HUME:

You belonged to a group in the Department of Justice under Robert Kennedy which was widely known as the "get-Hoffa-squad." Was this what it was?

JAMES NEAL:

I do know that there was a group that Bob Kennedy pulled together to follow up his concern and his brother's concern with what he considered to be wide-spread corruption in the labor movement at that time. I don't think it was concentrated on Mr. Hoffa. If so, it was concentrated on Mr. Hoffa only because Mr. Hoffa was a very powerful figure in the labor movement at that time.

I do think that the Attorney General at that time was convinced that Mr. Hoffa was a bad man and was a danger to society, and as the chief law enforcement in the country, I think he was convinced it was his duty to vigorously prosecute this man.

JIM KINCAID:

During the Kennedy Administration, Jimmy Hoffa found himself battling employers on one hand to put through the unique Master Freight Agreement and fighting just as hard on the other to stay out of jail. For Hoffa, the Kennedy years were punctuated by a continuing series of legal battles waged in courtrooms around the country. In the past, Hoffa had usually come out ahead in his brushes with the law. In 1957, he was acquitted on charges of Congressional bribery. Later, he was tried twice for wiretap conspiracy involving alleged spying on Teamster subordinates. The first trial ended in a hung jury. In the second, in 1958, Hoffa was acquitted. Charges of mail and wire fraud brought against Hoffa in 1960 were dropped.

The first case against the Teamster boss brought by the Kennedy Administration was tried in Nashville in 1962. Hoffa was charged with accepting illegal payments from employers. Once more, though, the government failed to make its charges stick. The case ended in a hung jury, split 7 to 5 in Hoffa's favor. But the stormy Nashville trial contained the seeds of further trouble for Jimmy Hoffa -- and of a controversy that continues to this day.

The government kept Hoffa and his associates under close surveillance throughout the Nashville trial. One Hoffa aide, Edward Grady Partin, was secretly acting as a government informer. The result was evidence that led to Hoffa's subsequent indictment on charges of tampering with the jury in an effort to fix the verdict in Nashville.

(MORE)

HOFFA, Page 2013

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

This jury tampering case was tried in Chattanooga in 1964. Throughout the six-week trial, Hoffa and his representatives complained bitterly about the government's tactics.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

The Justice Department and its representatives are taking advantage of every underhanded trick there is, every un-American trick, withholding evidence and everything concerned so I cannot get a fair trial.

JIM KINCAID:

But the jury found Hoffa guilty and he was sentenced to eight years in prison. It was a stunning setback for Hoffa and he has protested vigorously ever since that his conviction was unjust.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

We proved three things. One, that they were interfering in a right to have a lawyer of your own choosing and not to be harassed. Two, they were harassing our witnesses. Three, they stole our papers out of the room and they were bugging our rooms. Absolutely, 100 percent and they don't deny it. They just maintain it was for security reasons. That was their alibi. Like they did when they broke into Ellsberg's office.

JAMES NEAL:

We had no surveillance on Mr. Hoffa or his associates except in those instances when we were told that something that we considered could be of an improper jury tampering nature ... were planned, and then we did surveille.

BRIT HUME:

Mr. Neal, Chief Justice Earl Warren called the Chattanooga trial of Jimmy Hoffa an affront to the quality and fairness of Federal law enforcement. As the prosecutor, how do you react to that statement?

JAMES NEAL:

Well, I think former Chief Justice Warren was wrong. He found some things that he didn't like and he minced no words in saying that he didn't like them. I was responsible for the trial, as the trial lawyer, and in my opinion, he was simply and totally and completely wrong.

It's been surveyed by the highest court in the land. It's been surveyed several times by the next highest court in the land, and the matter's been brought up and up and up again, in Chattanooga, before the trial judge. I doubt, I don't know of any other case in the last 50 years that has been reviewed as much.

JIM KINCAID:

Within weeks after his Chattanooga conviction Hoffa was back in court again, this time in Chicago.

(MORE)

HOFFA, Page 2015

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

He was charged with fraud in connection with an elaborate scheme to swindle money from the Union's Pension Fund.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

The plea of not guilty entered by my counsel I'm sure will be substantiated by the evidence that we will be able to produce in this court and I hope and trust that all those who are involved in the Pension Fund will not have any anxiety until this trial is over. Because ultimately they will find that this is another propaganda scene of Mr. Robert Kennedy.

JIM KINCAID:

But again, Hoffa was convicted. The judge added another five years imprisonment to the eight Hoffa already faced. Hoffa still maintains his innocence.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

I'm going to prove eventually, number one, I was not guilty in Chattanooga; I cannot be held legally responsible for what other people did in Chicago, and eventually somewhere down the line there'll be decisions coming out of the Supreme Court, not for a Hoffa but for other people, we'll be able to use in our case and overturn it. I'm not going to give up.

BRIT HUME:

Mr. Bittman, you prosecuted Jimmy Hoffa in the Pension Fund case in Chicago, could you explain the charges and outline that case?

WILLIAM BITTMAN:

What the government did in that prosecution was trace twenty-five million dollars in Pension Fund loans and it was determined through the evidence that approximately one point seven million dollars was diverted to the eight defendants. And the eight defendants and that included Mr. Hoffa.

BRIT HUME:

Is it true that most of the evidence did not directly implicate Hoffa?

WILLIAM BITTMAN:

No, I don't think that's true at all. I think the proof in that case clearly indicated that Mr. Hoffa, as one of the trustees of the Pension Fund, made material misrepresentations in connection with the Pension Fund loans that were made, that he concealed material facts which were relevant in connection with the Pension Fund trustees' determination of what loans to be made, and substantial amount of Pension Fund loan proceeds were directly traced from those loans to Mr. Hoffa's benefit in connection with a project called Sun Valley in Florida, in which he held a secret interest.

JIM KINCAID:

Hoffa was convicted and, on March 7, 1967, with some appeals still pending, Hoffa was sent to the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. The Kennedy Justice Department had gotten its man.

BRIT HUME:

Mr. Neal, what is your view of the government's ability ultimately to gain a conviction of anyone it is willing to pursue relentlessly?

JAMES NEAL:

The only discomfort I've ever had with respect to the Hoffa matters center on that subject. I have no doubt, as far as I'm concerned, that Mr. Hoffa was prosecuted fairly and ethically in the sense of the evidence developed ... the procedure and substance of what happened. In the last ten years, as I've gotten a little older and perhaps, hopefully, a little wiser, I have had some discomfort with the thought that if the federal government pursues any man long enough and hard enough, it's very difficult for him to escape.

JIM KINCAID:

Even though government administrations have changed and Hoffa has served his prison term, he is not yet a free man.

PART III

JIM KINCAID:

For a man who once controlled nearly two million Teamsters and 600 million Teamster dollars, Jimmy Hoffa leads a simple life. His financial needs are amply covered by a lump sum pension settlement which netted him one million dollars.

But out of prison and back with his family Hoffa is not yet a free man. Today, barred from union activity, Hoffa spends much of his time at his lake-front home in Michigan where he plans his strategy to regain power.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Out here you get up in the morning, do your exercise about three times a week, do your weight lifting about three times a week, have your breakfast, get out in the yard, mow the lawn once a week.

JIM KINCAID:

Hoffa has appealed the restriction on his commutation which bars him from labor until 1980, and is awaiting a Federal Court action in January. While Hoffa waits for the decision which could free him to rejoin the Teamsters, he puts his energies into the National Association for Justice, a prison reform organization which Hoffa joined after his release from Lewisburg Penitentiary. His work for prison reform keeps Hoffa in the public eye travelling around the country and making speeches.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

A young man going to prison has to make up his mind after a few days of quarantine ...

JIM KINCAID:

Although the NAJ functions are for prison reform and are not a union activity -- the majority of those attending are teamsters or Teamster officials. Thus, despite his restriction, the NAJ enables Hoffa to keep in continuing touch with key union leaders.

The NAJ office in Washington provides a convenient place from which Hoffa fights the legal battle to lift his restriction. Ted Daley of Local 445 and three other leaders of Teamster locals have joined Hoffa in the lawsuit.

Hoffa claims that when he walked out of Lewisburg Penitentiary on December 23 of 1971 he did not know about the restriction which would bar him from union affairs until 1980.

The 1980 restriction, when did you learn of it, when did you find out ...

JAMES R. HOFFA:

It happened on the evening of the 23rd when I arrived in St. Louis, Missouri, from a reporter we met at the airplane. Because they didn't release the, to the press, the restriction until four fourteen even though I had been released at four o'clock knowing that once I was outside of the gate that whether I liked the restriction or not it was in the commutation.

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

I saw James Hoffa possibly three or four hours after he got out of prison. I met him over near the Williamsport Airport, and at that time he told me that they wasn't going to keep him out of organized labor until 1980.

BILL GILL:

Does this indicate to you that he was fully aware?

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

I didn't give it a thought at the time, but when this controversy came up, I can only tell you what he told me. Whether he was aware of it or not, it's strange to me that a man who's released from prison on commutation by the President of the United States, that he says he wasn't aware of the full conditions.

ANNOUNCER:

Document: Conditions of Parole, with no mention of the restriction, signed by James R. Hoffa on December 22, 1971. The restriction itself as part of the commutation is dated a day later, December 23, 1971.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

They were fearful that I would not accept the commutation if I knew that was in there.

JIM KINCAID:

Would you have?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

No, I would not 'cause I would have been out of prison in 1974 without restrictions.

JIM KINCAID:

In Federal Court last July, Hoffa was unable to get rid of the restriction and immediately appealed to a higher court where the case is awaiting action in January. And, while the fight continues to get the restriction off, the debate still rages as to how the restriction got on. The cast of characters in the controversy is drawn from former President Nixon's White House staff. The three apparent principals were all later involved in the Watergate scandal.

Some Hoffa partisans blame Charles Colson, once Special Counsel to President Nixon. Colson left the White House for private law practice and his firm was immediately hired by Teamster president Frank Fitzsimmons. John Dean, former White House lawyer, says in a deposition that he originated the restriction but with former Attorney General Mitchell's approval. But Mitchell says on a signed affidavit that "at no time ever ... did I give any consideration to the necessity or desirability of the inclusion of a condition."

JIM KINCAID:

Do you think Colson had a hand in that?

JAMES R. HOFFA:

I'm positively sure that he had a hand in it, and I'm positively sure that he was the architect of the language, not Dean. Dean accepted it from him. And he did it to ingratiate himself with Fitzsimmons. And in doing so get the job of representing the Teamsters. And Fitz did it, through Colson, to be able to keep the presidency of the International Union.

BILL GILL:

One of the major charges by Jimmy Hoffa against Frank Fitzsimmons is that you conspired with Chuck Colson and the Nixon administration to restrict him from participation in the labor movement.

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

There is no truth whatsoever. And as far as Jimmy Hoffa is concerned, when he makes that statement, he knows that he's a damn liar. He accuses Chuck Colson and me of creating them restrictions. I didn't know nothing about them restrictions, didn't know anything about 'em until I read it in the newspapers.

JIM KINCAID:

Charles Colson spoke about the Hoffa restriction with ABC News last July -- two days before Colson went to prison for Watergate related offenses.

CHARLES COLSON:

The accusation has been made that Fitzsimmons and I cooked this up, some conspiracy, to keep Hoffa from coming back into the Teamsters. That's just plain malarkey ... Fitzsimmons and I never discussed the restrictions on Hoffa's commutation. I advised Mr. Fitzsimmons I think the day before Hoffa was to be released that he was going to be released under conditions that seemed to be in the best interest of the labor movement and the country at the time. I never told him what, what those restrictions were.

JIM KINCAID:

William Carlos Moore, former head of DRIVE -- the Teamsters' political arm -- says he heard Fitzsimmons on the phone with Colson planning the restriction.

WILLIAM CARLOS MOORE:

So he picked up his phone and asked his secretary to get Mr. Colson on the phone and he called Mr. Colson "Chuck."

BILL GILL:

Do you ever recall conducting a conversation in the presence of a Mr. Moore, with Chuck Colson, about that matter?

FRANK FITZSIMMONS:

When Moore says that, he knows he's a liar, he knows he's lying in his teeth.

ANNOUNCER:

Document: William Carlos Moore's signed affidavit to the U.S. District Court. "The telephone call was made, presumably to Mr. Colson. Mr. Fitzsimmons ... made an observation in substantially the following words: 'Chuck, Hoffa should be released from prison but I think it awfully important that a condition be placed on him that he not be free to seek office and to participate in the labor movement until after he has served his full sentence.'"

WILLIAM CARLOS MOORE:

It became a kind of a standing rule with the administration, I'm talking about the Fitzsimmons administration, that let's get Hoffa out of jail, let's get the Hoffa people off our back, but let's restrict him so he cannot come back into the labor movement.

PART IV

JIM KINCAID:

Hoffa left this seat of Teamster power when he went to prison in 1967, but charges of corruption and scandal still confront the union.

JOHN HERLING:

There are all kinds of stories which indicate that there is still a close relationship in many ways with certain corrupt elements, if not pervasively, in sufficient degree to make it uncomfortable for many honest Teamsters and many honest leaders in the Teamsters Union who would like to see that disposed of once and for all.

JIM KINCAID:

The Central, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Fund has been a principal subject of controversy in the Teamsters. The fund has assets of over one billion dollars.

Under Hoffa, the fund began to invest heavily in mortgages, often for projects which other financial institutions were reluctant to touch.

The Central States Pension Fund has bankrolled a number of Las Vegas gambling casinos and hotels. They include: The Stardust, Caesar's Palace, The Dunes and Circus-Circus.

(MORE)

JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

Such loans have stirred criticism not only because they have seemed highly speculative, but also because of continuing charges that mobsters hold secret interests in some of the biggest Las Vegas gambling houses.

JAMES R. HOFFA:

Now I've been accused of giving pension loans to hoodlums. Yet nobody ever proved that. And you take any loan that we ever made in Central States and show me a hoodlum that's involved in that loan and then I'll agree that I'm wrong. Now they take Moe Dalitz ... they say, oh, Moe Dalitz is a hoodlum. Well he was a colonel in the United States Army, he's a casino owner approved by the Gaming Commission in Las Vegas, Nevada, and he's been on the committees representing the voters under the governor out there. So if I'm associating with a hoodlum, what are they doing? The Army, the Gaming Commission and the governor are all associating with hoodlums. Now, so where do you draw the line who's a hoodlum?

JIM KINCAID:

Wherever Hoffa draws the line on who's a hoodlum, it is a fact that Morris (Moe) Dalitz was identified in Senate hearings in 1951 as a member of the notorious Mayfield Road Gang which ran illegal gambling and bootlegging operations in Cleveland as far back as the 1930s. Later -- in Las Vegas -- Dalitz acquired a major interest in the Desert Inn and the Stardust. The Stardust has received millions in Pension Fund loans.

(MORE)

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JIM KINCAID: (CONT)

It is also a fact that when Jimmy Hoffa went to prison in 1967, he said publicly that this man, Allen Dorfman, was his protege. Dorfman was promptly named Investment Consultant to the Pension Fund. While he held the job, he was regarded by federal authorities as a link between the fund and organized crime. He resigned last year after being sent to prison for conspiring to obtain a \$55,000 kickback on a fund loan. He is now out of jail and has a home on the grounds of the La Costa Country Club, where he has been seen on the golf course with Frank Fitzsimmons, who also is a member there. And Dorfman is not the only alleged racketeer Fitzsimmons has encountered at the club. Last year, it was reported that the Teamster president met there with Louis (Lou the Tailor) Rosanova, and the same day flew back to Washington aboard Air Force One with President Nixon.

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

That's not a factual report. And, as you know we've got interests in La Costa ... And we was in the dining room having lunch with Mr. Roen and one or two other people. We finished having lunch and it was the day previous to the starting of the Andy Williams tournament in La Costa ... As we was walking out of the dining room, out to get our car to go back up, to ride back with the President, a fellow by the name of Lou Rosanova just came up the stairs from being out on the practice range. Well, knowing Lou as far as a man is concerned for a number of years, shook hands, said hello and what not and walked out, got in our car and went back and rode back with the President.

JIM KINCAID:

In Senate hearings in 1963, Lou Rosanova was identified as a member of the Chicago West Side Mafia. He is currently director of a Teamster-owned resort in Georgia.

The La Costa Country Club, north of San Diego, near San Clemente, was built by Moe Dalitz and others with the help of a \$27 million loan from the Teamster Central States Pension Fund. The club is kept under continuing surveillance by law enforcement officials because it is reputedly frequented by a number of men believed to be closely associated with organized crime.

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

It's a damn lie. Some of the most prominent people in the country go there. Now, if a hoodlum comes, I don't know what you do. What are you supposed to do to 'em? Hit 'em with a stick and chase 'em down the street?

JIM KINCAID:

Although Frank Fitzsimmons says things have changed at the Pension Fund, there are some who doubt it. One of the fund's most persistent critics has been Overdrive Magazine, a publication for independent truckers. Its editor is Michael Parkhurst.

MICHAEL PARKHURST:

It should be obvious to anybody that when Hoffa set up the Central States whole operation, he did it as a puppetmaster and Fitzsimmons who, of course, is his successor, but inept, continues the whole sham.

JIM KINCAID:

One of the Pension Fund transactions that has caused the most suspicion is a 1971 loan to a small manufacturing concern called the Gaylor Products Company. Operating from this small plant in Deming, New Mexico, the company seemed to have limited potential for profits and the Pension Fund had already been burned on a four million dollar series of loans begun twelve years earlier to support this same plant.

MICHAEL PARKHURST:

They got a 1.5 million loan from the Teamsters Union Pension Fund, but they didn't seem to have any assets. ... Why would they lend millions of dollars to a company that only had assets of 50,000 dollars? It's very simple. It's a typical scam operation.

BRIT HUME:

You used the term "scam operation," could you explain what that is?

MICHAEL PARKHURST:

Basically, what happens is they will lend money to a legitimate corporation which then goes bankrupt ... A bankrupt corporation is not responsible for paying off the debts. So if, if they spent the money playing, if they bought yachts, if they gambled it away, that's too bad, and the Pension Fund can say -- gee, that's too bad. We lent money to a company that went bankrupt. Gee, that's too bad. We're not in control of that. When we lent them the money we were satisfied that they were good.

(MORE)

MICHAEL PARKHURST: (CONT)

And that way they get off the hook and everybody's happy. So that's how they skim the money from the Pension Fund.

ANNOUNCER:

Document: Indictment by the Chicago Federal Grand Jury with charges against two pension fund trustees and five others.

JIM KINCAID:

Earlier this year, following an extensive investigation, a Federal Grand Jury in Chicago charged seven individuals and three companies with allegedly conspiring to swindle \$1.4 million from the Pension Fund. The indictment charges that the defendants hoodwinked the fund into granting the loan, which was then diverted to a variety of other purposes.

The defendants include two management members of the fund's board of trustees but no Teamster Union officials. Also charged, however, is Allen Dorfman, the close Hoffa associate who continued under Frank Fitzsimmons as the fund's investment advisor. All seven have pleaded innocent. ABC News has learned that the defendants will maintain that any losses to the fund from the Gaylur loan were the result of honest errors in business judgment and not from a scheme to cheat the fund. The case will be tried in January.

BILL GILL:

There is a case now where the Central States Pension Fund has some people under indictment for a New Mexico loan.

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

Yes.

BILL GILL:

Did you approve that loan, vote to approve it?

FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS:

This loan was made during the tenure of Mr. Hoffa's chairmanship of the fund.

JIM KINCAID:

Despite what Mr. Fitzsimmons says, the loan that led to the indictment was formally approved in 1971, during his administration. And ABC News has been told by officials close to the investigation that Fitzsimmons voted in favor of the loan.

ABC News has also learned that a Federal Grand Jury in Chicago is presently investigating the handling of other Central States Pension Fund loans. Federal sources told ABC News that new indictments involving fund money may come soon.

EPILOGUE

JIM KINCAID:

In this hour, we've tried not to judge Jimmy Hoffa, but to explain him. We believe that anyone who breaks the law, for whatever reason, must pay the penalty. But we also believe that the law, in seeking justice, must be applied fairly and constitutionally.

Labor corruption did not begin, nor end, with Jimmy Hoffa. And Hoffa's lasting effects on the labor movement cannot be easily labeled as all good or all bad -- for no movement, no union, no man is ever that simple.

Labor does not operate in a vacuum but in an inter-relationship with industry and government. To think these three major forces in our society can interact without corruption may be naive, but to accept that situation is reprehensible.

This is Jim Kincaid, good night.

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Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8) (P) Date 3/9/93
b7c

From : SA [REDACTED]

Subject: HOFFEX;
(OO: DETROIT)

As a result of renewed public attention on the disappearance of JAMES R. HOFFA, a HOFFEX conference was held in Newark, New Jersey, with the concurrence of AD LARRY POTTS, FBIHQ, and Detroit and Newark's SACs.

SAC ESPOSITO directed said conference and will prepare a detailed report for review by Detroit prior to submitting to FBIHQ.

A tentative proposal may be a formation of a HOFFEX Task Force to be considered in the near future. For continuity purposes, Detroit will not prepare a separate report from Newark's. SAC ESPOSITO provided several reports [documents to conference attendees which were made part of captioned file [Vol. 222, serial #879]].

TMC:prs
(1) *[initials]*

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[Handwritten signature over stamp]

Memorandum



To : SAC, DETROIT (281A-DE-67821) (C-8) (P) Date 4/19/93

From : SA [REDACTED] b7C

Subject: HOFFEX

b7A Re: [REDACTED] b7A

There has been extensive discussions on the matter regarding [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] E and [REDACTED] within the Detroit DIVISION, as well as with the Investigative Support Unit (ISU), FBI ACADEMY and the U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, Eastern District of Michigan. Of particular note, [REDACTED]

b7K

b7D

Subsequently, [REDACTED]

trial is scheduled to begin while [REDACTED] trial has been severed from [REDACTED] and will follow said trial. SA [REDACTED] stated from his personal knowledge of [REDACTED] as well as source information, [REDACTED]

AUSA KEITH CORCORAN

concurs with SA [REDACTED]

They do not believe the [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] is a viable investigative tool regarding [REDACTED] b7A

TMC/ms
(1)mo

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